

# ST. PAUL EPISTLE AUGUST 2025



## Long Summer Days...

As we enter into the month of August, I am reflecting on rest. We are in the time of year many of us know as the 'dog days' of summer, filled with humidity and heat. These 'dog days' are also an in-between time, before kids go back to school and work starts getting busy again, but also after the vacations, camps, and sports that come with June and July. And, it's in this period of time many of us, either because of the heat, or because it is the only chance to do so before the busyness of the year picks up, find time to step away and rest.

For me, this season brings to mind the type of lazy, child-like nostalgia. Days spent reading Richard Peck and Elizabeth Enright, putting the horses out to pasture for the last of the dry summer grass, and the clear nights with countless stars.

This longing that appears every year reminds me that it may be time for me to take a step away. While there are many ways we could fill up the next week to make ourselves busy in this in-between time, maybe there is a gift in letting it stay long and lazy. This time of is often a gift from God that allows us space and time to ground ourselves and to recharge before things speed up once again in September. It's a chance for us to not only reconnect with ourselves, but to reconnect with God and the world that God has created.

God creates life that is punctuated by seasons. As Ecclesiastes 3:1 reminds us, "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven," (NRSV). Our lives, therefore, find balance when we take time to lean into each of these seasons. There is a tendency to feel guilty when we step away from our daily chaos for something as simple as rest, but it is not only good, but it is *necessary* for our well-being. God designs us to need rest alongside our busyness, so of course when these 'dog days' come around many of us find ourselves craving space. There is a reason that I am not alone in my summertime nostalgia - it's because we as humans are taking a collective breath, sinking deeper into the rest that our bodies and minds need.

So this is your reminder that you can, and probably need, to take the time to rest. If you are tired, in body, mind, and soul, remember God's invitation towards sabbath where you can find peace, can recharge, and ground yourself.

As you work out what this period of rest, however big or small, may look like for you, I bestow on you this blessing:

*May long summer days speak to you of God's enduring light.*

*May bright summer flowers speak to you of God's unending beauty.*

*May fresh summer fruits speak to you of God's continuing kindness.*

*May warm summer nights speak to you of God's enfolding comfort.*

*May early summer dawns speak to you of God's renewing hope.*

*(May long summer days, by Simon Taylor, compiled in Summer by Ruth Burgess)*

May peace find you in your rest, my friend.

-Pastor Riley

## Worship Assistants Serving in August

Saturday August 2 ~ at Immanuel  
Saturday August 9 ~ Lester Hallquist  
Saturday August 16 ~ at Immanuel  
Saturday August 23 ~ Linda Patterson  
Saturday August 30 ~ at Immanuel

Sunday August 3 ~ Glen Hughes  
Sunday August 10 ~ Patti Larsen  
Sunday August 17 ~ Marian Myers  
Sunday August 24 ~ Sherry McCarter  
Sunday August 31 ~ Robin Colglazier

We celebrate with our St. Paul family members who have birthdays in August

1 Janet Searls  
9 Suzanne Bollman  
10 Lisa Guenther  
12 Harlyn Tourtillott  
17 Jett Gaffey  
18 Carol Moon  
19 Kayla Fordham  
23 Lauren Weaver  
24 Griffin Kobus  
26 Patti Larsen, Hakeem Banks  
27 Marcia Hallquist  
31 Rachel Kobus



You're invited to WELCA Coffee

Wednesday August 13th at 9:00 am

We will enjoy a tasty breakfast treat, friendly conversation  
and of course COFFEE.

All are welcome!

Northern Illinois Synod Women of the ELCA  
36th Annual Convention, September 20, 2025

Theme: "Rescue, Redeem, Restore"

First Lutheran Church

225 South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Rockford

Registration forms are available in the Gathering Area.

Registration is due August 20<sup>th</sup>.



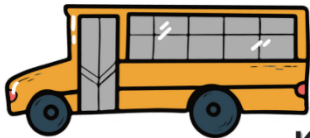
## Out and About

*Out and About will meet at Culver's (1317 N Galena Ave, Dixon, IL) on Tuesday, August 5, 2025 at 11:30 a.m. All are welcome!!!  
For more information or to arrange for a ride, call or text  
Beverley Eykamp at 815-677-8545.  
We hope you will join us!*

Mary Circle of Immanuel Lutheran Church would like to invite the ladies of St. Paul to join them for their summer lunch outing **August 7, 2025, 12:30 pm \***, at the River's Edge. Please contact Kathy Schutz at 815-677-8643 by noon on the 6<sup>th</sup> if you plan on attending. \*please note the time change



## **BACK-TO-SCHOOL BLESSING**



**Sunday, August 17 at 10:45 AM worship.**

Kids & teachers/staff - bring your backpacks, computers, tablets, lunchbox, anything you use at school that you want blessed.

Thanks be to God for the new seasonal altar flowers at St. Paul.  
We are grateful to Sherry McCarter, Cassandra Rodgers, and Lauren Weaver for their creativity.

Special thanks to Cassandra and Lauren for giving so freely of their time and talents.

St. Paul appreciates these wonderful ladies.



**FREE SPAGHETTI LUNCH** Pasta with a purpose!

**Tuesday, August 12, 11:30 AM - 1 PM.**

(St Paul fellowship hall)

Free to the community - for anyone who needs a free meal. Teens and adults - we need volunteers - sign up in the gathering area!



\*\*\*\*\*

We remember Rose Hamill. Rose passed away on July 10<sup>th</sup>.  
We remember Ethel Steder. Ethel passed away on July 26<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*\*\*

**St. Paul Lutheran Church  
Blood Drive  
Community Room**

421 S. Peoria Avenue  
Dixon, IL 61021

**Friday, August 29, 2025  
1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

For an appointment call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit  
RedCrossBlood.org. Appointments preferred.

You can save up to 15 minutes when you donate blood by using RapidPass! Visit  
RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass for more information.



**American  
Red Cross**

Community of Giving



Give blood 8/29 to 9/21 for 1 of 4 mystery tees with an  
iconic Red Cross x PEANUTS design, ltd. qty!



August is *National Make-A-Will-Month* and in an effort to be of service to those individuals and churches LSSI partners with, we are offering an estate planning webinar led by David Novak, LSSI Chief Advancement Officer. We hope you will join us and invite a friend! This webinar will be held from 12:00pm – 1:00pm on Wednesday, August 13, 2025. LSSI has branded its planned giving program as: "*What Brings You Joy? The Gift Planning program at LSSI*"

This presentation will include:

- Planned Giving Essentials
- An overview of Charitable Giving Tools
- What the Big Beautiful Bill means for donors.

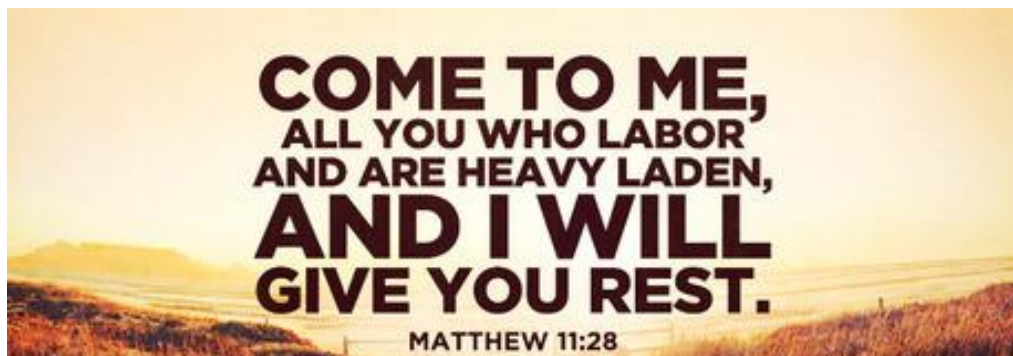
You can register by visiting this link: [LSSI.org/Webinar](https://LSSI.org/Webinar)

Whether you're just getting started or updating your plans, this webinar will help you align your legacy with what brings you joy—while supporting the people and ministries that matter most. Please let me know if you have any questions and I hope to see you virtually on August 13th!

Blessings,

Kathy Hall,

LSSI [kathy.hall@lssi.org](mailto:kathy.hall@lssi.org) 815-284-7796



# COLLECTING SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR LWR



## LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF SCHOOL KITS

The following items are included in one school kit. Please consider purchasing and donating enough school supplies to fill 1 kit, or any combination of single items from the following list. Items may be dropped off at St Paul anytime before September 8. Or, bring them to worship on August 17, and the children will collect them from your pew during the children's offering. The August children's offering will support LWR school supplies and shipping costs. Children and youth and adult volunteers will assemble the kits on Sunday, September 14 (Rally Day) 9:30-10:30am.

**FOUR** 70-sheet notebooks of wide- or college-ruled paper, approximately 8" x 10 1/2"; no loose leaf paper

**ONE** 30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other

**ONE** pencil sharpener

**ONE** pair of blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)

**FIVE** unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers; secure together with a rubber band

**FIVE** black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink); secure together with a rubber band

**ONE** box of 16 or 24 crayons

**ONE** 2 1/2" eraser

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!**

[lwr.org/kits](http://lwr.org/kits)

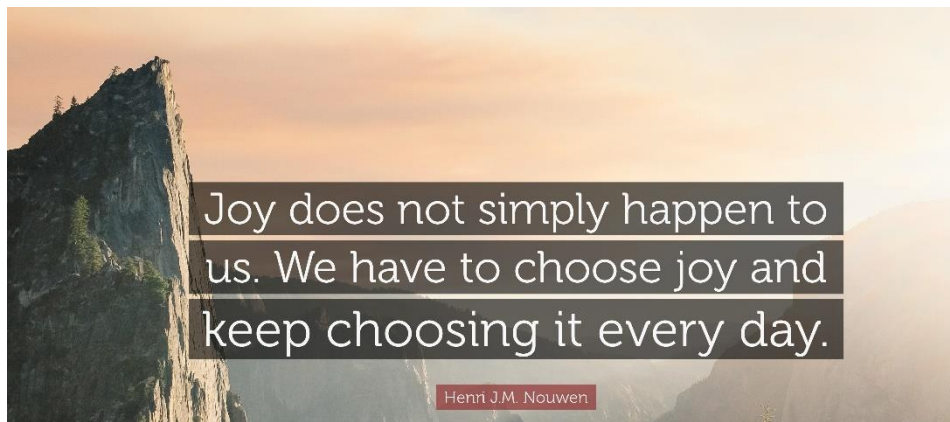


**St. Paul & Immanuel New Member "Retreat"**  
Are you interested in membership or had your membership reactivated recently?

Then we want **YOU** to sign up for our new member "retreat" on Sunday, September 7th, noon to 3 pm at Immanuel Lutheran Church.

This new format will go beyond surface level conversation and will explore what it means to be a Christian/Lutheran, how to be a church member, and have time to make connections with current members. Lunch provided!

\*We are also looking for volunteers to help coordinate lunch, and 1 or 2 members from each church to help in conversation and getting to know new people. Contact the pastors or church office if interested or have any questions.







# BACK TO SCHOOL

*"Lord, we pray for positive relationships among all members of the school community. May there be mutual respect, understanding, and support. May our schools be places where everyone feels valued and appreciated."*

St. Paul / Immanuel will cooperate to serve the community by working at Dixon Habitat for Humanity. **Saturday, September 6<sup>th</sup>** has been set for the day that we can help with building a house for a needy family in Dixon. We start at 8 am and will plan to work until early afternoon. This will be open to anyone 18 years old or older. Younger ages can work but are heavily restricted to the type of work and need parental permission. There is a coffee break in the morning. Lunch will be provided by us. We need volunteers to provide a picnic type lunch for all of us, plus a small group that work on the house throughout the week. There is a sign-up sheet in the Gathering Area.



Our work crew should be around 8-10 volunteers.

Contact Bob Gingras for any questions at 815-288-5262 or [segragingras70@comcast.net](mailto:segragingras70@comcast.net)

- \* Sunday September 14 ~ Rally Day
  - \* Sunday September 21 ~ Sunday School begins
  - \* Immanuel Lutheran Church Quilt Sale
- Saturday September 20 and Sunday September 21



St. Paul and Immanuel will be transporting LWR School kits and quilts to Rockford October 4<sup>th</sup> or October 5<sup>th</sup>.

If you could help by driving,  
please contact Tori in the ILC office at 815-284-2804.

Want to get rid of all those Amazon boxes?  
The ILC Quilters need boxes.

There is an example in the lobby at ILC.  
Boxes can be taken to the ILC library any time during the year.



ILC

# Youth & Family

SPLC

## August Newsletter

**"How very good and pleasant it is when  
kindred live together in unity!" ~ Psalm 133:1**

On July 6th, during this year's Petunia Festival Parade, youth from both Immanuel and St. Paul's came together to serve the community by selling hotdogs, brats, popcorn, and drinks to parade-goers. Their efforts raised \$379.25 to support our youth programming. The proceeds were evenly shared between both congregations, and the youth had a fantastic time giving back and enjoying the festivities!



*In this issue...*

Pg. 2 - July Youth Trip Recap

Pg. 3 - Worship in the Park &  
Upcoming events

Pg. 4 - Aug. Calendar

**Rally Sunday: Sunday School Kick-off at Immanuel:**

Sept 14, 8:00am - 12:30pm: **"The Lost Sheep"**

8am-Fellowship, 9am - Outdoor Worship,  
10:15am - LWR Hygiene Kit Packing Service Project,  
11am - 12:30pm - Lunch on the Lawn,  
11:30am-12:30pm - Youth Games

Parents/guardians, scan here to  
register your student(s) for  
Sunday school.



### **ILC Acolyte**

8/2: Sam Gilbert  
8/3: Cade Johnson  
8/10: Addison Wolf  
8/16: Alorya Dempsey  
8/17: Max Gingras  
8/30: Mattie Melendrez

**RALLY  
DAY!**

**Fall Rally Day Sunday School Kick-off at St Paul:** Sept 14, 9:30 -  
10:30 AM: yummy snacks, LWR school kit packing service project,  
meet your Sunday school leaders, find your classroom,  
and stay for 10:45 AM worship. Parents/guardians, scan **here**  
to register your student(s) for Sunday school and teen  
youth group on Sunday mornings, 9:30-10:30am!





ILC

# Youth Trips

SPLC

## Lifest & Six Flags



Dash @ the Free Zoo in Oshkosh  
Shell-abrating 30 years old!



Kelsie, Somar, Adelita & Alajandria



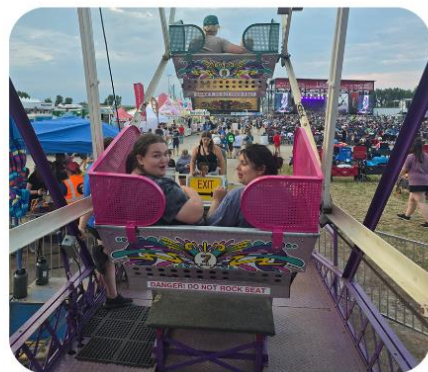
We are just some big kids who  
got to enjoy the Ferris Wheel



We will be attending Lifest next  
summer! July 9-12, 2026  
Tent camping is involved.



Awesome music!



**Join us!!!**



July 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025 GREAT AMERICA





# Park Worship & Upcoming...



WORSHIP AND PICNIC  
IN THE PARK.

SUNDAY, JUNE 29



Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

**John 14:6**

We give thanks to God for the gifts of baptism, creation, journeying together, vacation Bible school and so much more!



## Mark your Calendars:

Aug. 10, 10:15am - High School meeting @ ILC

Aug. 12, 11:30-1pm - youth service project - serve free spaghetti lunch @ St Paul

Aug. 17, 10:45am worship at SPLC - back-to-school blessing (bring your backpack)

Aug. 24, 9:15am - youth committee meeting @ SPLC

Sept. 01, 3:30pm - Free to Be You Youth Group Returns @ Wooden Wonderland

Sept. 07, 1:00pm - Confirmation Parent/Student orientation @ St. Paul

Sept. 14, Both ILC & SPLC Rally Sunday and Sunday School Kick-off!

Sept. 19-20, Confirmation Retreat @ LOMC

Sept. 21, Sunday School Begins!!


Sept. 27, Family Day Outing to Discovery Museum in Rockford, IL

My dear children, let's not just talk about love; let's practice real love. This is the only way we'll know we're living truly, living in God's reality. 1 John 3:18 (The Message)

ILC

**AUGUST**

SPLC

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
27	28	29 H.S. Great America Trip	30	31	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 ILC Youth Meeting 10:15 am	11	12 SPLC Free spaghetti lunch for those who need it. teen service project 11:30am-1pm	13  Dixon's 1 <sup>st</sup> day of school	14	15	16
17 SPLC back-to-school blessing @ 10:45am worship	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 SPLC youth committee 9:15 am	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	1 SEPTEMBER FTBY resumes @ Wooden Wonderland 3:30-5:30  LABOR DAY	2	3	4	5	6

**AUGUST CHILDREN'S  
CHANGE/OFFERING****ST PAUL:****IMMANUEL:**

As students go back to school this month, we ask God to keep them safe from harm, give them equal opportunities to grow in knowledge and learning, and remind them God loves them everywhere - all the time!



# August 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2  5:30 pm Worship at Immanuel
3 10:45 am Worship	4 10:00 am Prayer Team  6:00 pm Book Study  6:00 pm Property Meeting	5 9:00 am Line Dancing  9:00 am Staff Meeting at ILC  11:30 am Out & About will meet at Culver's	6 10:00 am St Paul Ministries	7 11:00 am Chair Yoga  11:00 am Book Study 12:30 pm ILC Mary Circle Summer Lunch River's	8  1:30 pm Liberty Court Worship	9  5:30 pm Worship at St. Paul
10 10:45 am Worship  Executive Council	11 10:00 am Prayer Team  6:00 pm Book Study	12 9:00 am Line Dancing  9:00 am Staff Meeting at ILC  10:00 am Social Ministry Meeting  11:30 am-1:00 pm Free Spaghetti Lunch	13 9:00 am WELCA Coffee 1:00 pm Worship & Music Meeting 2:30 pm Finance Committee 3:00 pm Christian Ed Meeting 5:30 pm Praise Band Rehearsal	14 11:00 am Chair Yoga  11:00 am Book Study	15	16  5:30 pm Worship at Immanuel
17 10:45 Worship Praise Band  Back to School Blessing	18 10:00 am Prayer Team  6:00 pm Book Study	19 9:00 am Line Dancing  9:00 am Staff Meeting at ILC	20 10:30 am Heritage Square Worship  5:00 Praise Band Rehearsal 6:00 pm Council Meeting	21 11:00 am Chair Yoga  11:00 am Book Study  Epistle Items Due	22	23  5:30 pm Worship at St. Paul
24 9:15 am Youth Committee  10:45 am Worship Praise Band	25 10:00 am Prayer Team  6:00 pm Book Study	26 9:00 am Line Dancing  9:00 am Staff Meeting at ILC	27  11:00 am Care Ministry	28 11:00 am Chair Yoga  11:00 am Book Study	29 Red Cross Blood Drive 1:00 pm-6:00 pm	30  5:30 pm Worship at Immanuel
31 10:45 am Worship						

St. Paul Lutheran Church  
421 S. Peoria Avenue  
Dixon, IL 61021  
Email: [office@stpauldixon.org](mailto:office@stpauldixon.org)  
Website: [www.stpauldixon.org](http://www.stpauldixon.org)  
Office Hours: Monday – Thursday, 8:30 am - 1:30 pm  
Phone: 815-288-2757  
Email: [pastoragwindau@gmail.com](mailto:pastoragwindau@gmail.com)  
[pastorreedwindau@gmail.com](mailto:pastorreedwindau@gmail.com)

## ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



### Staff

Rev. Riley Reed-Windau & Rev. Anthony Windau  
Co-Pastors

Gerad Von Holten - Director of Youth and  
Family Ministries

Rhonda Thomas - Secretary

Brenda Nailor & Sharon Colglazier - General Funds  
Treasurers

Lorraine Hussung - Special Funds Treasurer

### Church Council

Robin Colglazier – President  
Patty Hallquist – Vice President  
Joyce Craney – Secretary  
Carol Moats  
Jeanette McWethy  
Julie Pitchford  
Linda Patterson  
Cyndi Starr