

~ St. Paul Epistle January 2026 ~

What's important to you?

When I served as interim minister in Andover, Iowa, the Southeastern Iowa Synod created a deck of cards with discussion questions on them to help churches reflect on their ministry. Every once in a while, I will pull out the deck and go through them for inspiration. Recently, one stood out to me. It asks, "what is the single most important thing that being part of a congregation has contributed to your life?"

I knew right away what my answer would be, community! My home church, Kingo Lutheran had it in spades. In fact, it is Christian community that has inspired my path into ordained ministry. I have seen the love of God reflected in the hearts and souls of those who have cared for me in my times of need, so I am inspired to do the same for others. That's why fellowship is so important to me! It was over coffee and cake that I found a place I belonged and offered help when I felt helpless. I knew the message of God's love to be true when folks I hardly knew would say, "can I get you another cup of coffee?" or, "how was your week?" This love pushed me to ministry.

A slight shift. For years now, St. Paul and Immanuel have done an annual stewardship drive in the fall. You know the drill, you get the letter in the mail and maybe a Temple Talk or two. This year we are going to do it differently, and you'll learn more after the Annual Meeting. But ahead of that, I want to pose the question to you to begin pondering,

What is the single most important thing that being part of this congregation has contributed to your life? And a follow up, how are you supporting it and sharing the same with others?

We give back to God in gratitude with our time (volunteering), skills (cooking, organizing, carpentry, quilting/sewing, teaching, music, and so many more), and with money. By giving in these ways we say to God, "thank you." We say, "You and this community are important to me." And "I want this community to continue to exist." It is not required, of course, but in response to God's love and the love we have for one another, we share what we can, when we can.

Out of thanksgiving to God, I serve God's people. And every opportunity I have I tell people about St. Paul and Immanuel to say, "look at the great things God is doing!"

Allow me to say, thank you, for the many and various ways you help support Immanuel and St. Paul Lutheran Churches and the ministry we do together in Dixon and beyond. Truly, thank you! I look forward to seeing how God shows up this year.

In gratitude,
Pr. Anthony





Pr. Anthony Invites You to a Presentation Sunday, January 18th

Dear Immanuel and St. Paul, I'd like to invite you all to a presentation on **Sunday, January 18th at noon at St. Paul**. I recently finished my first class at the Vancouver School of Theology and I want to share what I learned and what I am working on with you all! The topic is, "Humanity's Role in Redeeming Creation: Exploring High and Low

Anthropocentrism." My goal is to make it accessible to all people—you need not be a theologian to attend 😊 Please let me know if you are interested so I can pick where we will meet.

We will try to livestream/record it too - Pr. Anthony

Annual Meeting Time!

It's the most wonderful time of the year—Annual Meeting Time!

Please make plans to attend St. Paul's Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 25th.

It is important that we gather to do the business of the church. Committee chairs, make sure your reports are turned in as soon as possible.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Worship Assistants Serving in January

Saturday January 3 ~ at Immanuel

Saturday January 10 ~ Lester Hallquist

Saturday January 17 ~ at Immanuel

Saturday January 24 ~ Marian Myers

Saturday January 31 ~ at Immanuel

Sunday January 4 ~ Robin Colglazier

Sunday January 11 ~ Joyce Craney

Sunday January 18 ~ Glen Hughes

Sunday January 25 ~ Sherry McCarter



We remember Glenna Switzer who passed away on December 19th.



2025 GIVING STATEMENTS

The 2025 giving statements are available at the church office. Statements can be picked up at the church January 11 - 19.

Remaining statements will be mailed and emailed January 20.



WELCA Coffee

Wednesday, January 14th 9:00 am

in the fellowship hall. All are welcome!

Enjoy great conversation, hot coffee, and a delicious breakfast

We celebrate with those who have a January birthday

2 Connie Clayton, Adam Thrasher
4 Jane Beaman, Brantley Wolf
6 Carolyn Janatka, Lawrence Moats
7 Eliza Zimmerman
8 Jane McCaslin
12 James Tourtillott
13 Sesily Gaffey
21 Camery Peterson
24 Marjorie Asplund
26 Aramis Hussung, Samuel Strom
28 Lynn Bollman
29 Pastor Anthony



Pizza and Bingo... join in the fun...
Saturday, January 24th after the worship service

Thank you!

Pr. Anthony and I would like to extend our sincerest gratitude to all who helped make this Advent and Christmas season happen! We are also so very thankful for the cards many of you gave or sent us—we love getting cards! Thank you and may God bless you in this new year! -Pr. Riley and Pr. Anthony

Thank you for your thoughts, prayers, hugs, and kindness during Terry's illness and passing. Also, thank-you to everyone who prepared food and helped with the funeral luncheon. Terry loved his church family, and our family truly appreciates everyone thinking of us during this difficult time. ~ Sherry McCarter

*thank
you*



In preparation for the Annual Congregational Meeting, annual reports are due to the church office by January 7th



Joint Snow Tubing Trip
Let's play in the snow with Immanuel.
Sunday, January 11th
Sign up by January 4th



The church office will be closed on Monday, January 19th
Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Please have February Epistle Items to the Church Office on or before
Monday, January 26th Thank you!





HAPPY NEW YEAR

And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in
all things at all times, having all that you need, you
will abound in every good work.
2 Corinthians 9:8

Mark
your
Calendar



St Paul

Spaghetti

Dinner

**February 25,
4:00 - 7:00pm**

HALF THE PROCEEDS SUPPORT REDUCING
STUDENT LUNCH DEBT DIXON IN DIXON
SCHOOLS, AND HALF THE PROCEEDS
SUPPORTS ST PAUL YOUTH MINISTRIES.

January

January 2026

Youth Newsletter

SPLC

Together In Faith

Two Churches, One Mission



ILC

SPLC & ILC Events

Mark Your Calendars & Join Us!

Jan, 11th: Snowtubing

Feb, 13-15th: Quake Event

Feb 25th: Serve @ SPLC
Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser
4-7pm.

March 20th: Trivia Night -
Youth Fundraiser @ ILC

June 22-25: *Called to Serve*
VBS

July 9-12: Lifestrip!! Tent
Camping Included!

FROM GRATITUDE TO GRACE...

Grace, when it has extended to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God. --2 Corinthians 4:15b

✨ New Year, New Beginnings ✨

As we step into a brand-new year, we're reminded that God is always inviting us into new beginnings. The calendar may change, but the promise of God's love, grace, and guidance stays steady and sure.

In Isaiah 43:19, God says, *"See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?"*

New things don't always show up with fireworks—sometimes they come through small moments of courage, tiny steps of faith, or a quiet nudge in your heart that says, "Try again."

This year, you get to begin again.
You get to grow in new ways.

You get to follow Jesus with fresh hope and open eyes.

Take a moment and think:

What is one "new thing" you want to invite God into this year? A new habit? A new attitude? A new way to serve? A new way to love others? God isn't asking you to be perfect—just willing.

Prayer:

God of new beginnings, thank You for the fresh start this year brings. Open our hearts to what You are doing in us and through us. Help us to recognize Your new things and walk boldly with You. Amen.

Here's to a year filled with growth, joy, and Spirit-led new beginnings!

January Children's Offering/Change:

SPLC: **QUAKE**
YOUTH ENCOUNTERING THE GOSPEL

ILC: **Dixon**

Sunday school resumes...

SPLC: January 4: Faith Lab!

ILC: January 11

CONTACT US

SPLC: Gerad Von Holten

Email: youth@stpauldixon.org

ILC: Somar Bryson

Email: yfdirector@ilcdixon.org

December Highlights:

Christmas shopping for LSSI



Thank you to all who participated in the November Children's offering and Christmas shopping for the LSSI group home! With the SPLC November children's offering, a Walmart donation and Thrivent Action Team, gifts for LSSI totaled over \$600!

Children & Youth Christmas Programs
Thanks be to God for the young people who shared with us the story of Jesus' birth Dec. 14 at St Paul and Dec. 21 at Immanuel!
Thanks to all who helped!

*"The time is always right
to do what is right."*

Martin Luther King Jr

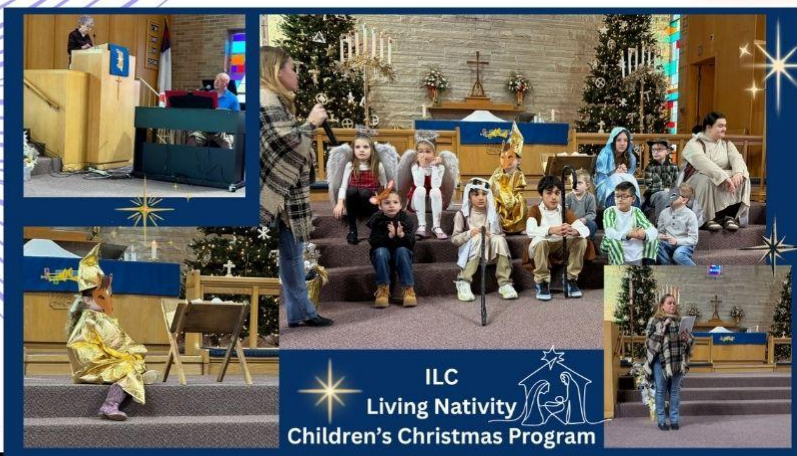
January Events...



Christmas worship & programs SPLC



ILC



Free to Be You - Youth Group

January 5th, 12th, & 26th

10:30am-5:30pm



Snowtubing @ Snowstar

January 11th, 2026

10:30am-5:30pm



Confirmation @ ILC

January 4th & 18th, 2026

1:00pm-3:00pm

A Look Ahead...

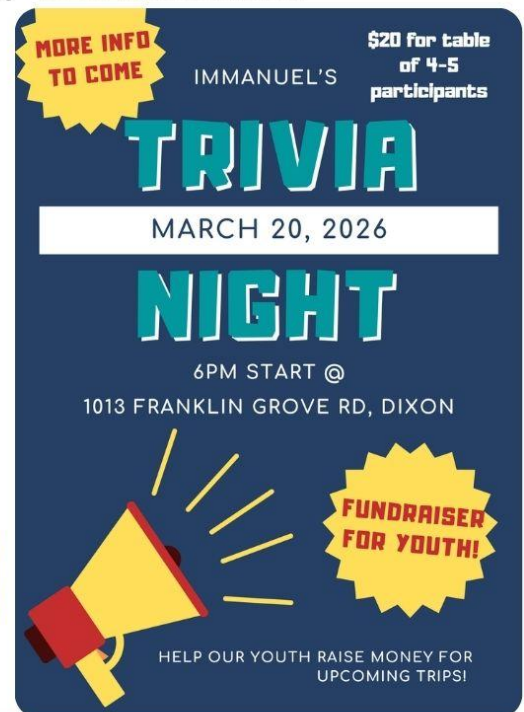
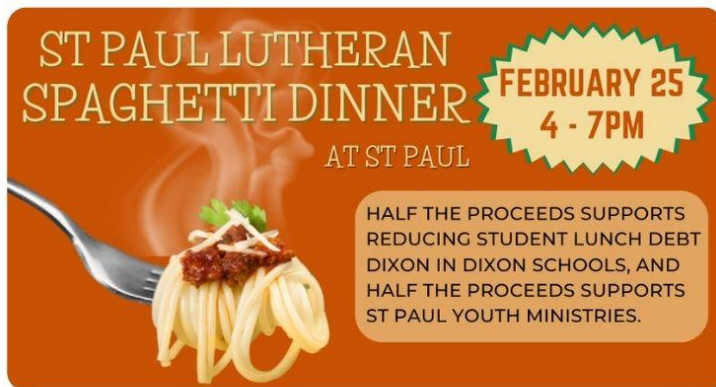
Quake 2026



This February our youth leaders will be taking 5 students from SPLC and 9 students from ILC to this years Quake Event at Wisconsin Dells.

Quake is not just another youth event—it's an experience that has the power to change lives. At Quake, your child will be surrounded by other young people who are eager to explore their faith in a safe, welcoming environment. With dynamic speakers,

powerful worship, and engaging activities, Quake provides the perfect setting for your child to deepen their relationship with God and discover their unique purpose. What makes Quake truly special is its focus on personal growth and spiritual development. This is also a time for youth to make some amazing memories. Here's to this year's Quake Crew!! We will have a Quake-prep meeting with lunch for students and parents/guardians at 12pm on January 18 at Immanuel.



Believe it or not... Joint VBS planning begins in February! This year, Immanuel will be hosting June 22-25. VBS will take place in the evenings and will include dinner. Stay tuned for more details!







Current Pricing:
Adults \$82/full event
Youth \$45/Full event
See Somar to attend or for more information.

2026

January

2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 	2	3
4 Sunday School "FAITH LAB" SPLC - 9:30am Confirmation @ ILC 1-3pm	5 Free to Be You 3:30-5:30pm	6  Ephiphany of Our Lord 	7	8	9	10
11 Sunday School ILC - 9am SPLC - 9:30am Snowtubing Family Event 10:30-5:30pm	12 Free to Be You 3:30-5:30pm	13	14	15	16	17
18 Sunday School ILC - 9am SPLC - 9:30am Youth Committee - 9:15am Quake meeting & lunch - 12pm @ ILC Confirmation @ ILC 1-3pm	19  Martin Luther King Jr. Day No FTBY	20	21	22	23	24
25 Sunday School ILC - 9am SPLC - 9:30am	26 Free to Be You 3:30-5:30pm	27	28	29	30	31

January 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
				Church Office Closed Happy New Year Welcome 2026		5:30 pm Worship at Immanuel
4 9:30 am-10:30 am Faith Lab 10:45 am Worship Praise Band 1 pm -3 pm Joint Confirmation Class at ILC	5 10:00 am Prayer Team 6:00 pm Property Committee Meeting	6 9:00 am Line Dancing 9:00 am Staff Meeting at St. Paul 10:00 am Social Ministry Meeting	7 1:00 pm Worship & Music Committee Meeting 3:00 pm Christian Ed/Faith Formation Meeting Annual Meeting Reports Due	8 11:00 am Chair Yoga	9 1:30 pm Liberty Court Worship	10 5:30 pm Worship at St. Paul
11 9:30 am-10:30 am Sunday School 10:45 Worship 10:30 am-5:30 pm Joint Sledding Executive Council Baptism of Our Lord	12 10:00 am Prayer Team	13 9:00 am Line Dancing 9:00 am Staff Meeting at St. Paul	14 9:00 am WELCA Coffee 2:30 pm Thrivent /Finance Committee 5:00 pm Praise Band rehearsal	15 11:00 am Chair Yoga	16	17 5:30 pm Worship at Immanuel
18 9:15 am Youth Committee 9:30 am-10:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship Praise Band Noon Quake Meeting at ILC / Pr Anthony's class at St. Paul 1 pm-3 pm Joint Confirmation Class at ILC	19 10:00 am Prayer Team Church Office Closed Martin Luther King Jr. Day	20 9:00 am Line Dancing 9:00 am Staff Meeting at St. Paul	21 10:30 am Heritage Square Worship 6:00 pm Council Meeting	22 11:00 am Chair Yoga	23	24 5:30 pm Worship at St. Paul following worship Pizza & Bingo
25 9:30 am-10:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship Annual Congregational Meeting	26 10:00 am Prayer Team Epistle Items due to Church Office	27 9:00 am Line Dancing 9:00 am Staff Meeting at St. Paul	28 10:00 am Care Ministry	29 11:00 am Chair Yoga	30	31 5:30 pm Worship at Immanuel



VIDEO TUTORIAL COMING SOON

Check your email inbox this month for a link to a video tutorial on setting up and accessing your St Paul member Realm account. Once set up, you'll be able to access the online membership directory, pledge/giving information and more.

St. Paul Lutheran Church
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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