



# *St. Paul Epistle June 2026*

## *What Does a Pastor Do?*

Not many people know exactly what a pastor does, or where they are during the week (except on Sundays!). It is kind of wild to think about how in one day a Pastor can go from administrative tasks, to writing, to pastoral care, to youth ministry, to community involvement, and more! Last month, Pr. Anthony took you through a week of his schedule in March. This month, I want to take you through a week of *my* schedule (May) to show that even though we are both pastors for the same two churches, our schedules look very different from each other. Like last month, keep in mind that our schedules change each week, and some seasons in the church year are busier than others.

Monday: Each week begins with Pr. Anthony and I meet at a local coffee shop to plan out our week. We go through the hours we worked, what our upcoming week looks like, how we are going to divide our tasks, and if there is anything we need to take to the staff meeting on Tuesday. It was Pr. Anthony's turn to lead Prayer Team at St. Paul, so I went to my office and worked on answering emails and phone calls, catching up with paperwork, and finishing various tasks that got left over the weekend. At noon, we had a meeting about Stewardship. In the early afternoon, we went to a neighboring town to visit one of our members and spend a bit of time with them and to give them communion. At 3, we went home for a bit, and then I had to be back to work at 5:45 for a meeting with the Property Committee. I got home around 8:15.

Tuesday: Our staff had their weekly joint meeting starting at 9:00. During our meeting we go over anything out of the ordinary in the weekly schedule, worship at both churches, and if there are any other things to cover as a group. At 10:30, Pr. Anthony and I head to our DACMA (Dixon Area Christian Ministerial Association) meeting. I am the Secretary, so I take notes at that meeting. We discuss upcoming events and hear about Lifescape and the resources they provide to aging adults in our community. We go to the hospital after our meeting to see if we can visit one of our members - they end up having people in their room, so we will come back on Wednesday. We go back to the office, and I work on the slides for St. Paul's worship until 2:00 when I meet the Programs Director and Chaplain at LOMC for coffee. I am on the Program Committee, so it was good to talk about the upcoming summer and how we are going to collect data. It was also good to hear a bit more about the summer's theme. I got home at 4:15.

Wednesday: This week is my turn to lead the Prayer Team and Bible Study at Immanuel, starting at 8:30. After Bible Study, Pr. Anthony and I go back to the hospital. We visit the individual we couldn't see the day before, and we also go and visit another member who is there. We get back to the office around 12:00 (noon), and I have a phone call with a pastor who is speaking at Synod Assembly about the church and progressive, future-focused congregations. St. Paul's Worship and Music Committee meeting starts at 1:00. Pr. Anthony has a wedding meeting at 3:30, so I represent the pastors at the Christian Ed. and Faith Formation Meeting at St. Paul. I head home around 4:00,

and while I make dinner and wait for Pr. Anthony to get home from the wedding meeting I clean the old files off of my laptop because it is getting a bit slow.

Thursday: I start today by working on the site application for Immanuel to be Somar's CL site. I look over bulletins and answer emails and phone calls from the past day or so. While I was in my office, quite a few people came in to chat, so that kept me busy until I had to leave for an appointment at 1:00 in Sterling. I got home at 2:30, and spend some time with the critters before our Mutual Ministry meeting at 5:30. We get there a little bit early to set up. We get home around 7:15.

Friday: Friday is usually our day off, but I had a couple things to finish up. I start the morning at 9:00 with a meeting with a student from Sauk, and then we head out on our adventure for the day. While Pr. Anthony drives, I work on my laptop to finalize the paperwork for the CL site application. I also type up the minutes for the DACMA meeting earlier in the week and send them out. When we get home in the afternoon, I do one more check and send those emails.

Saturday: We have First Communion class today! We get to the church around 8:15 to set up for the class and to welcome the kiddos and their grownups. We get done with class around noon. We head home for a quick change, and then begin our trek to Dubuque so that Pr. Anthony and I can attend the Retirement party of a good friend. Usually we would have Saturday night service, but today a friend is covering. I haven't finished my sermon for Sunday, so while Pr. Anthony drives, I work on my sermon on my laptop. We get a call on the way there, though, and find out about a member who needs us to visit in Rockford. So I drop Pr. Anthony off in Dubuque and drive over to Rockford to visit them in the hospital. Thankfully, a friend meets me halfway on the way back to Dubuque. I finish my sermon in the car. We get home around 10:00.

Sunday: We start the morning at Immanuel. I have a couple things to take care of before worship, like printing more coloring sheets, finalizing my sermon (mostly spell-checking and printing), and getting the children's message ready. For worship at Immanuel, we have First Communion for the kiddos that took the class the day before. Then we head over to St. Paul for the service there. After worship we would usually do fellowship, but we had an Executive Committee meeting, so we attended that. We got home around 12:30 and enjoyed the rest of our day!

As you can see, some of the things that came up during the week were "normal," and others popped up! The week after this one looked a little different as I had less meetings and more visits. My hope in sharing this, like Pr. Anthony mentioned last month, isn't to brag about how much we do, but to share some of the things that go on in our work that most people don't see. I do want to make sure you know, that no matter what our week looks like, or what I have going on, **I always have time to talk and will make time to visit!** My favorite part of my job is the fact that I get to be at work in this community, both the church congregation, and the wider Dixon community. **I love spending time with you, and it's the most important part of my work!** Every day brings new surprises and opportunities, but I am so thankful to serve alongside you all as we do the work of the Gospel together.

Blessings,

-Pr. Riley

## Worship Assistants Serving in June

Saturday June 6 ~ at Immanuel

Saturday June 13 ~ Patti Larsen

Saturday June 20 ~ at Immanuel

Saturday June 27 ~ Robin Colglazier

Sunday June 7 ~ Glen Hughes

Sunday June 14 ~ Lester Hallquist

Sunday June 21 ~ Marian Myers

Sunday June 28 ~ Joint service in the park

3 John Strom  
4 Bill McWethy  
7 Jeremy Wolf  
8 Leslie Contreras, Sandra Metz  
12 Samantha Tourtillott  
16 Ruby Wagner, Sherry McCarter  
19 Gerad VonHolten  
20 Norma Contreras  
29 Cassandra Rodgers



### A Summer Worship Challenge

How many of you have been to Immanuel for their normal Sunday worship? I don't mean for Christmas or the Installation service or during Lent, but just a run-of-the-mill Sunday. Not many! That is why I am issuing this challenge—**at least once this summer (June, July, or August) make a point to attend Immanuel's Sunday morning worship.** I bet you'll notice some things that are different, but you'll see a lot that

is the same. I bet you'll see someone you know or even make a new connection. Pay attention and I encourage you to report back to me or Pr. Riley what you notice. As we work to be "two churches, one mission" it's important we stop seeing it as Immanuel versus St. Paul (or vice-versa) and start to see our work as St. Paul and Immanuel (and vice-versa). See you on Sunday! -Pr. Anthony



### COMING TO A SANCTUARY NEAR YOU!

For months different committees of the church have been discussing moving pews. By adjusting the amount of space in between them, we hope to make attending worship more comfortable, and more importantly, more *accessible*. Property, Worship and Music, and Council have talked about every angle of this project. While the change might be surprising,

I can almost guarantee that after the initial shock you will come to appreciate the extra space. People with mobility needs or baby strollers will appreciate it too! If you would like to see the detailed plan, please contact Pr. Anthony. Otherwise, the brief of it is: a few pews will be removed on each side of the sanctuary and the remaining pews will be re-spaced, adding no more than 14" of space. This change will only affect the front half of the church—so if you like being squeezed you can still experience that 😊



## The Kindest Gift You Can Give

The kindest gift you can give your loved ones after your death is to have your funeral planned, written out, and in the hands of the funeral home and church. I know it might seem macabre to talk about, but in the 31 funerals I've done, the "easiest" ones for families are the ones where the deceased has clearly communicated their wishes. This is usually done with the funeral home of choice. If you have not done so, please consider this. You are never too young or too old. I (Pr. Anthony) have already chosen the hymns and readings I would like at my funeral.

Here's what you need to decide: First and foremost, if you want a funeral in the church (say Yes!) It is *never* a bother of the pastor or church to hold a funeral. A funeral service is just as much for you as it is for your loved ones to mourn. Ritual is vital to this. Second, decide if you would like Holy Communion at your service. It is very Lutheran to do so, but not everyone opts for it. Third, you will need to pick 3 readings (Old Testament, a Psalm, and New Testament). If you have a strong preference of Gospel reading, you can say that too. Fourth, pick your favorite hymns—grab a copy of the ELW and flip through it. You'll need a minimum of three hymns (4 or 5 if you have Communion).

I have a worksheet I take families through and would be happy to share with those interested. It comes with some suggestions. I do know some funeral homes say that "the church service isn't our business." In that case, you can share your plans with your pastors, and we'll enter them into the records. Feel free to ask questions. Pre-planning really is the kindest gift you can give. -Pr. Anthony.



Petunia Fest Worship on Sunday, July 5th at 9 AM at the riverfront. Pastor Anthony is preaching.  
There will be *no* worship at St. Paul that Sunday

### **Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm ~ Organ Concert & Dedication at ILC**

Mark your calendars for the dedication of Immanuel's Allen organ to the memory of Barb Wiggins. Dr. Steely will be playing.  
Light refreshments to follow.



**WELCA Coffee**  
**Wednesday, June 10<sup>th</sup> ~ 9 am**  
**All are welcome!**



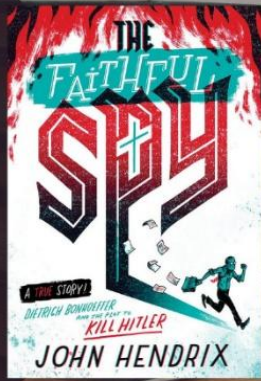
# BOOK STUDY GROUP!

Join us to explore John Hendrix's graphic novel, "The Faithful Spy: Dietrich Bonhoeffer and the Plot to Kill Hitler." Even though this is a graphic novel, all ages are welcome, and adults will get a lot out of it, too!

**Mondays at 5pm & Thursdays at 11am @ St. Paul Lutheran Church**

Contact the St. Paul or Immanuel Office to sign up!

*Meeting weekly beginning the week of June 1<sup>st</sup>*



*baby shower*

**Couples Baby Shower  
for Lexi & Kevin Greene  
Sunday, June 14<sup>th</sup> ~ 12:15 pm**

**We will celebrate and enjoy a  
light luncheon.**

**Please RSVP by  
Friday, June 12<sup>th</sup> with a text  
to Patty at 815-973-4386 or  
Joyce at  
815-440-6290.**



## May-June Inkind offering for VBS service project: Lutheran World Relief (LWR) Baby Care Kits

During the months of May - mid-June, we are collecting items needed for LWR baby care kits. VBS students will be assembling the kits during the week of VBS, June 22 - 25 at Immanuel Lutheran Church. Bring donations to the dropbox in the gathering area at St Paul. Thanks for your help!

### INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING IN EACH BABY CARE KIT

- TWO lightweight cotton t-shirts (no Onesies ®)
- TWO long- or short-sleeved gowns or sleepers (without feet)
- TWO receiving blankets, medium-weight cotton or flannel, or crocheted or knitted with lightweight yarn, between 32" and 52" square or rectangular
- FOUR cloth diapers, flat fold preferred
- ONE jacket, sweater, sweatshirt or cape with a hood, or include a baby hat
- TWO pairs of socks
- ONE hand towel, dark color recommended
- TWO or three bath-size bars of gentle soap equaling 8 to 9 oz., any brand, in original wrapping; no mini or hotel size bars
- TWO diaper pins or large safety pins

## Petunia Festival Parade



# YOUTH FOOD TENT FUNDRAISER

**SUNDAY, JULY 5,  
11 AM - END OF  
PARADE**

**PEORIA AVE.  
(in front of  
St Paul)**

**In support of Immanuel and St Paul youth ministry events and trips.**



# Worship and picnic in the park



Sunday, June 28, 10:00 AM\*

- At Lowell Park **with Immanuel Lutheran Church**
- Location: Lions Shelter
- Picnic lunch following - watch for food donation signups in the Gathering Area (table service provided)
- Bring a lawnchair
- Activities for the kids!

**\*This is the only worship service offered for the day. Restrooms are available, and 4-wheeler UTV assistance is available for folks with mobility restrictions. In case of rain - worship & picnic will be at Immanuel.**



St. Paul & Immanuel  
Lutheran Churches  
Dixon, IL

**Two Churches,  
One Mission**



**MUSICIANS! Want to help lead worship? Contact Gerad Von Holten (SPLC) (815)-627-0898 or Mark Dempsey (ILC) (217) 853-6840**

# JUNE SPLC/ILC

Youth newsletter



REGISTER HERE



Called

Community Event. All are welcome!

To SERVE

*Come be the hands and feet of Jesus*

VBS

June 22-25, 2026

at Immanuel Lutheran Church



JUNE 30TH!

Six Flags  
GREAT AMERICA

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 6/12 - Family Game Night @ ILC
- 6/22-25 - Vacation Bible School @ ILC
- 6/28 - Worship in the Park @ 10am
- 6/30 - Six Flags (MS & HS Trip)

## JUNE CHILDREN'S CHANGE/OFFERING

ST PAUL:

PADS

IMMANUEL:

Habitat for  
Humanity

# Upcoming Events...



**FAMILY GAME NIGHT**  
**JUNE 12 - 5-7PM**  
**YOUTH ROOM**  
join us for a night full of fun, laughter, and friendly competition!



**Six Flags**  
**GREAT ESCAPE**  
Tuesday  
June 30, 2026

## Worship and picnic in the park

Sunday, June 28, 10:00 AM\*

- At Lowell Park with **SPLC & ILC**
- Location: Lions Shelter
- Picnic lunch following - see food donation signups (table service provided)
- Bring a lawnchair
- Activities for the kids!

\*This is the only worship service offered for the day. Restrooms are available, and 4-wheeler UTV assistance is available for folks with mobility restrictions. In case of rain - worship & picnic will be at Immanuel.

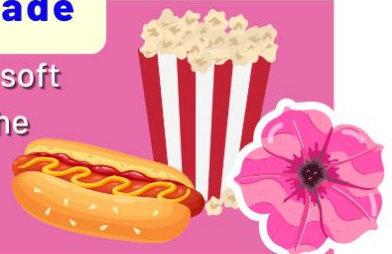


St. Paul & Immanuel Lutheran Churches  
Dixon, IL  
**Two Churches, One Mission**



## ILC/SPLC Youth Food Stand At Petunia Fest Parade

Immanuel and St Paul youth are selling grilled hotdogs, brats, popcorn, soft drinks and water on Peoria Ave. (in front of St Paul) before and during the parade on Sunday, July 5, (parade starts at 1 pm). Proceeds support future youth events. THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



# JULY 9-12

# Lifest

SHARING **LIFE** TOGETHER  
**OSHKOSH WI 2026**

# Faith Formation...

## Confirmation class Wrap-up

Our joint ILC-SPLC confirmation class wrapped up the year on May 17 and celebrated this year's confirmands, Luis and Rafael on May 31<sup>st</sup> at St Paul. This year the class studied the New Testament Bible. Check out their end-of-year digital media faith compilation by scanning here:



## SPLC Sunday School Year-End Wrap-up



St Paul children and youth finished the Sunday school year with their final Faith Lab, playing games, enjoying snacks and a final craft. Students learned stories from the New and Old Testament, explored their faith through a variety of service projects, activities, music, games and fun events. In additions to the Preschool through elementary classes, our middle school and high school met weekly for our Sunday morning youth group and monthly youth committee meetings. We are so grateful for our volunteer leaders, our amazing kids, parents and guardians and for the support of the congregation!

**THANKS BE TO GOD!**

**Enjoy the summer! Sunday school returns in September with Rally day!**

## ILC Sunday School Year-End Wrap-up

Our Sunday School program has experienced incredible growth this year! Students are building meaningful friendships, learning together, and often gathering as one united community for shared lessons and activities.

Each week, our classes follow the lectionary readings, helping connect Sunday School learning with worship so families can continue faith-filled conversations at home throughout the week.

Our PreK-1st grade students explore God's Word through the engaging and interactive SparkHouse Bible curriculum, while our 2nd-5th graders dive deeper into Scripture using the Adventure Bible. It has been exciting to watch our children grow in faith, confidence, and community as they journey together in Christ!



**We return  
Rally Sunday  
September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2026!**

ILC

# JUNE

SPLC

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
31 Affirmation of Baptism @ SPLC - 10:45am	1	2	3	4	5	6 2pm Organ Dedication: Barb Wiggins @ILC 
7 SPLC Youth Committee mtg - 9:15am	8	9	10	11	12 5-7pm @ ILC 	13
14  Flag Day Put Your Flags Out!	15	16	17	18	19 JUNETEENTH CELEBRATE FREEDOM 	20
21 HAPPY FATHER'S DAY	22 5-8pm @ ILC 	23 5-8pm @ ILC 	24 5-8pm @ ILC 	25 5-8pm @ ILC 	26	27
28 ILC & SPLC Worship & Picnic at Lowell Park 10am 	29	30 9am-7pm Youth Trip (MS & HS) 	1	2	3	
5 Petunia Fest Parade Food Booth @ SPLC before & during the parade						

# JUNE 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 10 am Prayer Team 5 pm Joint Book Study at St. Paul 6 pm Property Committee meeting	2 9 am Joint Staff Meeting at ILC 9 am Line Dancing	3 1 pm Worship & Music meeting 3 pm Christian Ed/Faith Formation meeting	4 11 am Joint Book Study at St. Paul 11 am Chair Yoga 1 pm St. Paul Ministries	5	6 2 pm Organ Concert at ILC 5:30 pm Worship at ILC
7 9:15 am Youth Committee 10:45 am Worship	8 10 am Prayer Team 5 pm Joint Book Study at St. Paul	9 9 am Joint Staff Meeting at ILC 9 am Line Dancing 10 am Social Ministry meeting	10 9 am WELCA Coffee 2:30 pm Finance Committee Meeting 5:30 pm Praise Band rehearsal	1 11 am Chair Yoga 11 am Joint Book Study at St. Paul	12 1:30 pm Liberty Court Worship 5 pm-7pm Family Game Night at ILC	13 5:30 pm Worship at St. Paul
14 10:45 am Worship~Praise Band 12:15 pm Baby Shower Executive Council	15 10 am Prayer Team 5 pm Joint Book Study at St. Paul	16 9 am Joint Staff Meeting at ILC 9 am Line Dancing	17 10:30 am Heritage Square Worship	18 11 am Chair Yoga 11 am Joint Book Study at St. Paul	19 Juneteenth	20 5:30 pm Worship at ILC
21 10:45 am Worship Father's Day	22 10 am Prayer Team 2 pm Church Council 5 pm Joint Book Study at St. Paul 5pm~8pm Joint VBS at ILC	23 9 am Joint Staff Meeting at ILC 9 am Line Dancing 5pm~8pm Joint VBS at ILC	24 10 am Care Ministry Meeting 5pm~8pm Joint VBS at ILC	25 11 am Chair Yoga 11 am Joint Book Study at St. Paul 5pm~8pm Joint VBS at ILC	26	27 5:30 pm Worship at St. Paul
28 10 am Joint Worship & Picnic at Lowell Park	29 10 am Prayer Team 5 pm Joint Book Study at St. Paul	30 9 am Joint Staff Meeting at ILC 9 am Line Dancing 9am-7pm Youth Six Flags trip				

St. Paul Lutheran Church  
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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  
Linda Patterson – Vice President  
Patty Hallquist – Secretary  
Jeanette McWethy  
Cyndi Starr  
Char Huff  
Tim Garnhart