

Announcements

St. Paul Lutheran Church January 4, 2026



Thank You for Joining Us!

Welcome to St. Paul Lutheran Church. We are grateful to God that you are here. We pray that you will feel the Spirit and warm welcome of this faith community.

Welcome Visitors!

We are so glad to have you here. Are you interested in learning more about St. Paul Lutheran? Curious about our activities and outreach opportunities? Are you considering becoming a member? Please contact the church office at 651-439-5970, or email SPLC@stpaullc.org, if you would like more information and to connect with people who would be happy to assist you. We'd love to get to know you better!

Stillwater Winter Parking Rules

From November 1st, through April 1st, all vehicles parked on City streets must be parked on the side of the street that bears addresses that are odd and/or even according to the day. On odd-numbered days, vehicles must be parked on the odd side of the street. On even-numbered days, vehicles must be parked on the even side of the street. When parking on the street, please park accordingly.



Giving Envelopes



Please pick-up your giving envelopes in the Gathering Area. You will find them on the table across from the Sanctuary entrance in the Gathering Area. Thank you!

Connect Center Update: Housing Challenges in Stillwater

Our partner and Executive Director of the Connect Center, Cindy Parsons, is familiar with the challenges of affordable rent in Stillwater. Perhaps you also have knowledge of this important issue? Join us next Sunday, January 11th at 10:30 in the Lounge as Cindy shares what she knows and as we discuss together how we can help address this crisis together.

Thank You!

Thank you to all who participated in our annual Christmas giving for the Rainbow families. Your generosity helped bring joy and hope to many this season. -The Mission Outreach Committee

Electronic Giving

Did you know you can also sign up for regular online giving? And that you can still keep your giving number and continue to use your envelopes for other giving opportunities? Simply scan the QR code in your bulletin or go to our website and click on the "Giving" button at the top of our home page. You can use either a credit/debit card or your bank account information. Our electronic giving is easy, secure and administered by Vanco, a reputable partner in empowering churches, schools, and community organizations by securely simplifying their giving, payment and financial management.

St. Paul Lutheran Church's QR Code for Giving

QR codes are everywhere these days, and SPLC has one too! Our giving QR code makes it simple to support any ministry or project. Once you scan it, just follow these quick steps: Choose your gift amount. Use the dropdown menu to select where you'd like your offering to go. Current Offering, Music Ministry, 4th Street Exterior Repair, and many more funds are available. It's a quick and easy way to give with purpose!

Offering Counter Training

Financial Operations requests that all counters attend a meeting on either Thursday, January 8th at 1:00 PM or Tuesday, January 13th at 1:00 PM. This training session will discuss procedures, forms used, and policy. Updated procedure packets will also be given out. ***This is for all weekly, subs, and holiday counters.*** If you cannot attend, please let the office know, and arrangements will be made. We will meet in the lounge. Thank you for stepping up and for your willingness to take on this important task!

Membership: Different Journeys, One Faith

We all have different journeys when it comes to our relationship and participation in a community of faith. But as Paul says in Ephesians, the Holy Spirit calls us to the hope of "one Lord, one faith, one baptism" through which we seek to deepen our love for God, one another, and the world. Are you seeking baptism for the first time? Or are you looking to affirm your baptism through a process of study, prayer and conversation? Or are you already baptized and familiar with church life but want to make more connections through conversation with others? These are all different paths toward becoming a member of St. Paul's. Want to learn more? Join Pastor Nathan on Sunday, January 25 at 10:30 in the Lounge to explore ways you can become a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church.



55+ SPLC Senior Members - Foot Care In Your Home



55+ SPLC Senior Members Foot Care: A Foot Care RN will tend to your toenails or other foot-related care in the comfort and privacy of your home.

You can also visit an office location in Bayport if you prefer. The cost is \$15 per appointment. Pick up an information packet in the Gathering Area or contact Jenny Powell

New and Updated Prayer List

Beginning early next year, we will be re-working our prayer list to better reflect immediate concerns while continuing to pray for as many people as possible. Please take moment and take a look at our current prayer list and note any names on your Welcome to Worship card that could be removed or that you wish to keep on the list. We will do our best to keep as many names as possible, however, if a name is inadvertently taken off please let us know. Thank you for your understanding.

Attention to our Seniors who receive Senior Surprises

During the months of January and February, we do not deliver monthly "Senior Surprises" as we never know what the weather will be like for delivery. Our Senior Crafters and our Senior Deliverers look forward to creating and delivering to you again in March. Can you believe we are going into our 6th year of this wonderful ministry to our seniors over the age of 70? If you are over 70 and are interested in being a part of this ministry, please contact the church office at 651-439-5970, and the crafters and deliverers will add you to our list.



The following people are those who decide and create the monthly surprises. If you see them, please thank them for their continued support of this ministry: Lynn Lomen, Ann Kriesel, Adele Urhammer, Shelley Jokinen, Pam Seekel, Mary Kay Ness, and Marguerite DeFore. We also want to thank our deliverers who bring the monthly surprises to your door: Adele Urhammer, Bob Michaelis, Ann Kriesel, Carol Weber, Jenny Powell, Lynn Lomen, and Marguerite DeFore.

We are grateful for this continued ministry!

Is God Calling You?

The Nominating Committee met on Monday, December 22nd to begin discussing the open positions that will be available at our upcoming Annual Meeting on February 1, 2026. Beginning in 2026 and through 2027, SPLC has the excitement of marking 75 years at our current location of 4th & Walnut!. This will be an exciting time for the Church Council and Committee Chairs and members to be a part of this new project and what God has planned for us. What can you do? Perhaps have an interest in leading from our values and vision? Or maybe you have ideas about taking care of our building and grounds, or events for children, youth and their families? Pray about where you might want to serve. Let someone on the Nominating Committee hear your interests or answer any questions. You might also receive a phone call asking about where your time and talents might lie regarding Church Council, Church Chairs, or Committee Members. Nominating Committee members are Kevin Urhammer, Nancy Peltier, and Marguerite DeFore. Pastor Nathan, and President Shelley Jokinen are also working with and alongside this committee to offer their guidance and help.

The following positions need to be filled for our upcoming Annual Meeting on February 1, 2026:

- President (1-year term will be appointed by Church Council)
- Vice President/President Elect (2-year term)
- Treasurer/Financial Operations Chair (2-year term)
- Property & Grounds Chair (1-year term will be appointed by Church Council)
- Mission Outreach (2-year term)
- Fellowship (2-year term)
- Evangelism & Membership Chair (2-year term)
- Children, Youth & Family (1-year term will be appointed by Church Council)
- Audit Committee (The Constitution states this committee is made up of 3 people: each serving a different term; terms are 1, 2, or a 3-year term.)
- Nominating Committee: Up to 5 members serving up to a 2-year term.

Large Print Bibles

The Senior Committee has two large-print Bibles available for you to borrow. Contact Bob Michaelis at 651-278-0072.

WELCA Triennial Gathering

The WELCA Triennial Gathering will be July 16-19, 2026 in Des Moines, Iowa. The Website for more information and to register is: welcatg.org.



A few things to know and consider:

- If you are a first-time attendee, there are scholarships available to pay the convention registration fee. Contact Becky Maier: jbmaier@hotmail.com.
- Early registration fee by January 5th is \$475. After that date, the cost is \$525.
- Included in the registration fee is a Friday morning breakfast for first-time attendees.
- Lunch each day is also included.
- Evening meal is on your own.
- The leaders of our Cluster usually plan things out a bit, and the group hangs together when out and about, if you want.

The cluster will be arranging carpooling for those who wish to carpool, and will also help with hotel reservations if you have questions and want a roommate to help with the cost. Hotel reservations and costs are your responsibility. If you have further questions, contact Judy Clausen or Jenny Powell.

Prayer Requests

Congregants: Ardyce S., Barb D., Nancy T., Dan B., Al M., Ron K., Judith K., Alida P., Pastor Laurel, Steve P., Mark C., and Abri B.

Family and Friends: Kurt S., Amy, William J., Karmen P., Darrel H., Jerry, Dick, Mary A., Troy A., Sophia M., Marv D., The Family of family of David and Carol S., Connor D., John O., Dan J., Mary A., Renae S., Mike S., Ann B., Katie P., Gary R., Jerry S., Sophia F., Sonja H., Kellye, Dave, Lucy, Keith, & Josh, Becky O., Mike, Jenny, Lisa, Kristen B., Mary Jo D., Rick & Jean, Patti & Family, Randy & Laura, Muggs, Carolyn, Paul, Kevin, Kara, Allison J., Evy, Dave, Georgia, Russel B., Bonnie M., Connie, Mary A., Bonnie S., Leo H., Jane S., Laura C., Lisa, Steph D., Brian D., Tyson D., Teegan D., Lexen, Danny, Harry E., Diane L., Jenny O., Lyle J., Vince S., Jim G., Margie M., Rick W., Karen W., Carol L., Jeff E., Mike M., and Jeffrey T.

In Loving Memory: Patty Thomsen, James Flynn, Marshall Ray Reams, Jacqulyn Pierre, Dorie Nelson, Lois Haase, Marlene Ritzer, Holly Halvorson, Mark Walker, Richard Markgraf, Sister Eileen Trinity, Judy Becker, Becky Dufresne, Jerry Sharon, Judy (Ek) Anderson, Jeremy Green, and Paul Baker.

SPLC In-person & Online Attendance

Date	In-Person Worship	Online Worship
12/7/2025	83	81
12/14/2025	94	170
12/21/2025	79	134
12/25/2025-3 PM	181	254
12/25/2025-5 PM	44	172
12/28/2025	60	159

Upcoming Events

Sunday, January 4th

9:00 AM Worship
11:00 AM 55+ Worship

Monday, January 5th

10:00 AM Sr. Committee Meeting
1:00 PM Women's Reading Club
5:30 PM Nominating Committee

Tuesday, January 6th

12:00 PM Connect Center Meeting
6:30 PM Worship Committee Meeting

Wednesday, January 7th

12:00 PM Staff Meeting
2:30 PM Zoom Executive Committee Meeting

Thursday, January 8th

9:00 AM Quilters
1:00 PM Counter's Meeting
3:00 PM Mission Outreach Meeting
4:30 PM Fellowship Committee Meeting
7:00 PM AA Fourth Dimension Meeting

Sunday, January 11th

9:00 AM Worship
10:30 AM in the Lounge: Housing Challenges

Weekly Worship Assistants

Sunday, January 4th

Ushers Adele Urhammer, Keith Wille, Carol Wille, and Judy Clausen

Assisting Minister Chris Shivers

Reader Janine Siverson

Communion Set-up Adele Urhammer

Communion Server Mugs DeFore

Altar Flowers

Sunday, January 11th

Ushers Tom & Carol Weber, Jennifer Braun, and Susan Markgraf

Assisting Minister Riley MacDonald

Reader Shelley Jokinen

Communion Set-up Nancy Schlagel

Communion Server Cheryl Renne

Altar Flowers

Church Staff

Sr. Pastor	Rev. Nathan Baker-Trinity
Visitation Pastor	Rev. Laurel Halvorson Bernard
Director of Music	Andy Peterson
Casual Worship Leader	Karen Hillmann
Office Coordinator	Kristin Nelson
CYF & Outreach Director	Jenny Brelje
Maintenance	Jeff Thomsen
Audio-Video Engineer	Tim Schingen

2025 Church Council Officers

President	Shelley Jokinen
Secretary	Chris Shivers

2025 Committee Chairpersons

Financial Operations	(Open Seat)
CYF	Sabrina Bell
Evangelism & Membership	(Open Seat)
Fellowship	Janine Siverson
Memorial & Grants	Diane Podratz
	Barb LaCosse
Mission Outreach	Ann Kriesel
Property & Grounds	(Open Seat)
Seniors	Jenny Powell
Worship	Jennifer Braun

St. Paul Lutheran Church

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(651) 439-5970

Office Hours

Monday - Friday, 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

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Website: stpaullc.org

Facebook: [@stpaulstillwater](https://www.facebook.com/@stpaulstillwater)