

Announcements

St. Paul Lutheran Church

July 27, 2025



Thank You for Joining Us!

Your presence at worship is important to God and to us! Whether you are a first-time visitor, frequent participant, neighbor, member, or friend, please take a moment as you prepare for worship to share some information on the "Welcome to Worship" card included with your bulletin. Place it in the offering plate at the time the offering is received.

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@stpaulc.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!

August 55+ Worship



The August service will be on Sunday, August 3rd at 11:00 AM. The menu will be Chicken Salad, Fruit, Croissants, and Dessert. Please sign up in the Gathering Area by Sunday, July 27th.

Remember - Limited Bus service is available for Stillwater and Oak Park Heights.

Pastoral and Hospital Calls

You are welcome to contact the church office anytime you have a pastoral need, especially for medical emergencies or at the time of death. If you or a loved one are hospitalized, please be aware that hospitals no longer contact pastors directly, so please encourage your family or loved ones to be in touch with us. The church's phone system can connect you to one of the pastors anytime.

Evening Grief Support Group

Beginning in September, Pastor Nathan would like to offer an evening grief support group. Please use your Welcome to Worship card to indicate your interest and times that work for you. Any change or loss in life can cause grief, and grief is complex and deeply personal. There is no "right" way to grieve. This group is for anyone to "come as you are" to receive hope in the midst of grief.

Have you noticed some changes in our bulletins over the past year?

Last year, the Executive Committee asked the Worship Committee to consider phasing out the weekly bulletin to save time and money. After discussion, a compromise was reached: instead of eliminating it, the bulletin would be streamlined. Since then, we've reduced its size and content, which has lowered printing costs—but increased the time needed to format it each week. This ongoing project includes input from Office Coordinator Kristin Nelson and regular discussion at Worship Committee meetings. Have ideas or feedback? Please contact Worship Committee Chair Jennifer Braun—we value your input as we work to serve our worship community well.

Privacy Notice

You may be photographed, filmed, or recorded during worship or church events, including livestreams on stpaulc.org. These images may be used in newsletters, on our website, social media, or future promotions. If you have concerns, please contact the office before Sunday or speak with a pastor, worship leader, or usher when you arrive. A designated digital privacy area is located in front of the sound booth in the sanctuary.\

Large Print Bibles

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

Garden Tea Fundraiser – The Connect Center

Janine will be selling tickets today in the Gathering Area. Enjoy an elegant High Tea, filled with heartfelt connections and the joy that comes from giving. Guests will enjoy a curated tea menu, a silent auction, and a heartfelt program featuring inspiring stories from clients whose lives have been transformed through TCC's support. Proceeds from the event will directly benefit programs that help our clients. Join us for a lovely afternoon on Saturday, August 2, 2025, at 1:00 PM hosted at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Tickets are \$60 per person and can be purchased at theconnectcenter.org or by calling 651.231.7807. Please consider supporting our Silent Auction - Donations of items, gift baskets, or services to feature in our silent auction are all welcome. We also have sponsorship opportunities available. Call us to find out more!

Pastor Nathan and LSM

Didn't get a chance to see Pastor Nathan live from Lutheran Summer Music? You can visit Lutheran Summer Music's LSM On Demand anytime and see Pastor Nathan preach and preside at several worship events, including the Hymn Festival.

Harvest & Holly Market – Coming Soon!

Get into the spirit of the season at St. Paul Lutheran Church's Harvest & Holly Market! This festive event will feature beautiful handmade quilts, unique seasonal crafts, delicious baked goods, and a variety of thoughtful gift items perfect for holiday giving. Whether you're shopping for loved ones or treating yourself, you'll find something special while supporting local makers and the 4th Street Exterior Repair and Refresh Project. Join us on Saturday, November 22nd from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM for a warm and welcoming day of shopping, fellowship, and fun. ***St. Paul Lutheran members are welcome to host a table at no charge!*** We hope to see you there! **Questions or Want to Volunteer?** Please contact Kristin!

The Yummiest Event of the Summer!

Please mark your calendar for our refreshing and fun Annual Ice Cream Social! Plans are underway for hosting SPLC's Annual Ice Cream Social on Sunday, August 10th, from 2:30 PM to 4:30 PM. We hope you can attend and bring plenty of family and friends with you. Pass the word along to your neighbors. Sunshine, music, ice cream and fellowship – what could be better? See you there! We are also looking for helpers to set-up, scoop ice cream and clean up after the event. Please take a look at the volunteer sign-up sheet in the Gathering area. Donations to assist with the cost of the ice cream are also gladly accepted. This is SPLC's thank you to our neighborhood and community, and as always your support is what makes it a big success! Thank you and contact Shelley Jokinen (651-329-2862) if you have any questions.



St Paul Lutheran Church's QR Code for Giving

QR codes are everywhere these days, and SPLC has joined the trend! You can now use our giving QR code for any type of donation.



Here's how it works: **Scan** the QR code. **Enter** the amount you'd like to give. **Choose** from the dropdown menu to designate your gift to a specific fund. Options include: Current Offering, Music Ministry, 4th Street Exterior Repair, Video/Audio Upgrades ...and more!

It's quick, secure, and helps ensure your gift goes exactly where you want it to.

Calling All Cooks & Bakers!



Get your aprons ready because the Fellowship Committee is hosting a **Bake-Off on Sunday, August 17th**, during Sunday Shine time (right after worship)! **Want to compete?** Sign up and show off your sweet (or savory) skills! **Just here to taste and judge?** Come cast your vote with your donation! All proceeds will go toward the Parking Lot Fund. And yes, there's a special prize for the baker who raises the most money, so bring your best dish and your charm! Come for the fun, stay for the treats,

and help pave the way, literally!

4th Street Exterior Repair and Refresh Project Update

At our most recent committee meeting, Renee Swanson shared a devotion from ThanksLiving: 365 Days of Gratitude by Ray Noah titled, "Does Your Church Building Matter?" We thought it was so meaningful, we wanted to share a bit of it with you:

"We don't need a building to have church, which ought to lead us to the realization of what constitutes the most important characteristics of the church - love and devotion to both God and our fellow worshippers.

Yet buildings can be a blessing. Is your home important to you? Of course it is. You don't need the house to be a family, but it sure does help. Therefore, upkeep on your home is a good thing.

Likewise, out of gratitude for the physical place God has provided for us to experience his presence, the time, effort and money we put into it to keep it at its best is an act of worship that pleases the Lord.

If you worship in a church building, God's blessing rests upon you and your fellow worshippers. Many believers around the world don't have what you have. And if they did, their gratitude for it would keep them from ever taking it for granted.

For sure, don't neglect the true church - the people who gather to worship God. But don't neglect the place where they meet either. It is sacred space.

"Anyone who is to find Christ must first find the church. How could anyone know where Christ is and what faith is in him unless he knew where his believers are?" - Martin Luther

And as Martin Luther once said:

(Continued on the next page.)

“Anyone who is to find Christ must first find the church. How could anyone know where Christ is and what faith is in him unless he knew where his believers are?”

The 4th Street Exterior Repair and Refresh Committee continues to meet every two weeks to oversee the progress of this important project. We are currently awaiting coordination with John Raleigh of Miller Excavating, who will be working with Jeff Thomsen on the wall demolition. We are especially grateful to both of them for their time and labor to this effort.

Have you noticed our new temporary 4th Street sign? We’re thrilled with how it turned out and grateful for the many hours of work from Jeff Thomsen, Barb Dietrich, and Kristin Nelson. We’ve heard nothing but positive feedback! The Church Council previously approved a budget of \$500 or less for this sign, and we’re happy to report we came in under budget.

At their July 22nd meeting, the Church Council approved the following fundraisers for the 4th Street project. We’re incredibly thankful for their support—and for your generosity as members of our church family.

Here’s what’s happening:

- Buy A Block – Help us rebuild the wall by “buying” a block for \$133. We need 50 in total and have already sold 18! Envelopes are located at both church entrances and will remain available until all blocks are sold.
- Ongoing Giving – Donation envelopes labeled “4th Street Repair & Refresh Project” are also at both entrances for regular contributions.
- August 17th - Bake-Off Fundraiser – Got a sweet tooth or a killer chili recipe? Bring your best baked good or savory dish and let the congregation vote with their donations! Sponsored by the Fellowship Committee. (And if you’d rather eat than bake, we need you too!)
- Fill the Wheelbarrow – Now through Labor Day, help us “Fill the Wheelbarrow” with coins, cash, or checks! It will be located near the office and securely stored between services.
- October 19th - Waffle Bar – Our first-ever waffle bar will follow worship in the Fellowship Hall, organized by Jenny Powell. More details to come—but trust us, you won’t want to miss it.
- Culver’s Nights – Dine out for a good cause! Culver’s will donate 10% of proceeds over \$1,000 on two Tuesday nights:

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September 30th and October 28th from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM.
Our youth will even be helping as runners.

- November 22nd - Craft & Bake Sale – Kristin Nelson will be coordinating a craft sale at SPLC on the same day as the Historic Courthouse Holiday Bazaar. Barb Dietrich will lead the bake sale. Mark your calendars—more info coming soon!

We are deeply grateful for the overwhelming support of our congregation. Every dollar, every prayer, and every moment of volunteer time is helping us preserve and improve our sacred space for generations to come. THANK YOU!

Your 4th Street Committee - Jeff Thomsen, Barb Dietrich, Shelley Jokinen, Renee Swanson, Chuck Clausen, Pastor Nathan, and Marguerite DeFore.

Have questions or ideas? Feel free to reach out to any one of us!

Grief Support Group Resumes July 30th

No matter what stage of grief or what kind of loss you're dealing with, all are welcome to come as you are to receive the support of others. Pastor Nathan will provide some centering scripture verses, a conversation starter question, and a prayer to conclude our time together. We are using the book *Good Grief* as a basis for our time together, however, it is not necessary to have read the book ahead of time. (If you'd like a copy of the book they are available at the church office for \$10). Our gatherings will conclude on August 27th.

Prayer Requests

Congregants: Dan B., Carol S., Al M., Ron K., Judith K., Alida P., Pastor Laurel, Steve P., Lois H., Mark C., and Abri B.

Family and Friends: Becky O., Beth Ann, Chad B., Mike, Kit, Dana, Emilee, Flannery, Sophie, Jenny, Erica B., Holly's Family, Lisa, Kristen B., Mary Jo D., Cody, Rick & Jean, Patti & Family, Randy & Laura, Muggs, Carolyn, Paul, Kevin, Char G., Kara, Allison J., Evy, Dave, Georgia, Russel B., Bonnie M., Connie, Shannon S., 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, Phyllis F., Rick W., Karen W., Carol L., Jeff E., Tom S., Mike M., and Jeffrey T.

In Loving Memory: Holly, Mark Walker, Richard Markgraf, Sister Eileen Trinity, Judy Becker, Becky Dufresne, Jerry Sharon, Judy (Ek) Anderson, Jeremy Green, Paul Baker, Scott Coleman, Becky Moore, Oand Len Schrade.

In-person and Online Attendance will return next week.

This Week's Events

Sunday, July 27, 2025	9:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Coffee & Tea Time!
Wednesday, July 30, 2025	1:00 PM Grief Support Group
Thursday, July 31, 2025	9:00 AM Quilters 7:00 PM AA Group
Saturday, August 2, 2025	2:00 PM The Connect Center Fundraiser
Sunday, August 3, 2025	9:00 AM Worship 11:00 AM 55+ Worship

Weekly Worship Assistants

Sunday, July 27th

Greeters

Ushers Jay Swanson, Jerry Schlagel, Lynn Lomen,
 and Atticus Mikla

Assisting Minister Jenny Brelje

Reader Chris Shivers

Communion Set-up Adele Urhammer

Communion Server Cheryl Renne

Altar Flowers

Sunday, August 3rd

Greeters

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

Assisting Minister Chris Shivers

Reader Janine Siverson

Communion Set-up Adele Urhammer

Communion Server Ann Kriesel

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 Siversen
Memorial & Grants	Diane Podratz Barb LaCosse
Mission Outreach	Ann Kriesel
Property & Grounds	(Open Seat)
Seniors	Jenny Powell
Worship	Jennifer Braun

St. Paul Lutheran Church

609 S. 5th Street, Stillwater, MN 55082
(651) 439-5970

Office Hours

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

Email: spkc@stpaulc.org

Website: stpaulc.org

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