

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH – STILLWATER, MN

THE MESSENGER

JUNE 2026

2026 Youth Mission Service Trip

SOUTH DAKOTA

We still hope to raise a few more dollars for our upcoming Service Trip to Sioux Falls! We look forward to learning about and exploring this community by serving with local non-profits and visiting different places throughout the area.

To support the trip, we will be holding our "\$100 Envelope Fundraiser." If every envelope is taken, we will raise nearly \$5,000, which would greatly help make this experience possible for our youth!

When you pick an envelope, you will receive the name of a youth participant who will become your prayer partner for the week. We hope this fundraiser is not only a way to support the trip financially, but also a way to stay connected through prayer and encouragement as we prepare to serve and grow together. We will start this fundraiser on June 7th! Thanks in advance!!!!

High School Graduation Quilts!

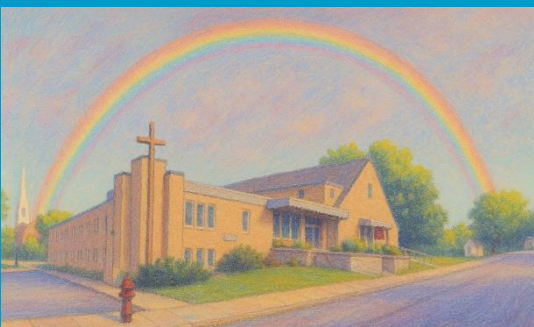
The quilters will be displaying their handmade quilts along the banisters near the office from Sunday, May 17th, through June 11th. These beautiful quilts have been lovingly created for our high school graduates.

If you have a 2026 high school graduate, you are invited to select a quilt in their honor. A sign-up sheet will be available. Please include the graduate's name, school, and graduation date so we can keep track of each quilt.



Quilts may be picked up at any time during this display period. As you browse, you might even spot fabrics you once donated, now transformed into something truly special. Take a moment to enjoy the creativity and care stitched into each one.

As the saying goes, many hands make light work! The quilters gather every Thursday at 9:00 AM and always welcome extra help. If you're interested in joining this meaningful ministry, they would love to have you!



Sharing God's Love for Over 150 Years!

St. Paul Lutheran Church
609 South 5th Street
Stillwater, MN 55082
Phone: 651-439-5970

Website: www.stpaulc.org

Facebook: facebook.com/stpaulstillwater

Message from Pastor Nathan

Why Lutheran Summer Music? An LSM "Top Ten" Lutheran Summer Music, the nation's premier faith-based music academy, has been a formative, life-changing experience for thousands of youth since its first summer in 1982. For the past six years, I have had the privilege of serving as Chaplain to this remarkable community of nearly 200 students (along with about 50 faculty and staff) that is formed over a one-month period from late June through late July. From my vantage point, here are "Top Ten" reasons I believe in LSM's power to change young people for the better.

1. LSM isn't just about music. The Three Pillars of LSM are Music, Community, and Faith. Although every student receives an immersive experience with both small and large ensembles, individual instruction twice a week, musicianship class, studio class, and many enrichment activities, community and faith are just as important. LSM cares about the whole person, not just their musical skills.

2. LSM is committed to its students regardless of talent. Although students audition for their various placements and solo opportunities, the program is intentionally non-competitive by design. The goal is to give space and time for every student to grow and flourish in their musical skills.

3. LSM provides a strong structure but then trusts students to manage their own time. For many students, this is their very first substantial time away from home. Many alum have described it as a pre-college experience that empowered them to manage their own time and seek personal growth.

4. LSM cares about the power of music to form community. While many LSM students go on to become professional musicians and teachers, LSM expects that all students will find community through music for their whole lives. Music's values of collaboration, listening to others, and being attentive to the whole will inform whatever their life's work will be.

5. Though Lutheran, LSM welcomes people of all faith backgrounds. Nearly one third of LSM students are non-Lutheran, and some have no faith affiliation at all. With over 40 worship services

during the month, the strong center of the Lutheran faith tradition is offered to all. But there always remains an open door, where space is made for doubts, questions, and other expressions of faith. At the beginning and end of our days, what brings us together is our music-making.

6. Though it happens in the summer, the LSM community continues all-year round and throughout life. Thousands of LSM alum remain connected throughout their lives and rely on that friendship throughout the seasons of their lives. Some have even discovered their life partners through LSM!

7. LSM is an organization of the church, by the church, and for the church. No matter their personal faith convictions, LSM students are continually reminded that the church has a long tradition of supporting music and the arts, and that singing in community is a spiritual discipline at the core of life together in Christ. Whatever form their musical journey through life takes, the church is likely to be a significant part of it, including supporting and employing musicians.

8. LSM supports all church vocations. Again, while many students go on to careers in music, many others go on to other careers in the church. This includes pastors, deacons, teachers, and administrators.

9. When students return home, LSM encourages students to participate in their own churches. Students also talk to each other and offer advice to one another, particularly in the Church Music elective which I have the opportunity to help lead. LSM expects that students will become leaders in their own churches, musical and otherwise.

10. LSM is a positive, spiritual force in the world. Rarely do young people experience such sustained and wholistic support for their whole being. Every day, LSM students receive the gift of caring, attentive adults who believe in their potential and affirm them for who they are.

Note: Pastor Nathan takes on his official duties at LSM on the campus of St. Olaf College from June 21st through July 19th. During this time, he will still attend to core administrative functions of SPLC and plans to be present in the office one day per week. He will also preach and preside at worship on June 21st and July 5th. All LSM concerts and recitals are free and open to the public. Go to lsmacademy.org for a complete listing.

Children, Youth, and Family

Sunday Shine! June 21st!

Join us on the third Sunday in June, following worship, for a fun and welcoming intergenerational activity! This is a great opportunity for all ages to gather, connect, and enjoy time together. There will be something for everyone, and yes, treats will be provided, because fellowship is always better with snacks. **This summer, we will hold Sunday Shine out on the Patio (if the weather is nice)!**



W.O.W. Camp 2026!

Calling all elementary-aged kids for an unforgettable adventure! W.O.W. Camp is a week packed with fun, learning, and excitement, and we're inviting your child to be part of it. Plus, there are plenty of volunteer opportunities for middle and high school students to get involved and make a difference!

A Week of Wonder!
W.O.W. CAMP
2026


Monday, August 10th to Friday, August 14th
Monday-Thursday, 8:00 AM-5:30 PM; Friday, 8:00 AM-12:30 PM.

For Students Entering Grades K-5th
(Register for the grade they are entering in Fall 2026)

Location: St. Paul Lutheran Church
609 5th Street South, Stillwater

Cost: \$175
Includes transportation, admission fees, camp materials, light snack, and a t-shirt.

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 **For more information and to register, use the QR Code or go to www.stpaulc.org**

Questions? Call Jenny at 218-770-5754 or jenny@stpaulc.org.

Senior Section

55+/Senior Worship Services Update

The 55+/Senior Worship Services and Lunches are being paused for July & August. We will see you on September 6th after the 10:00 AM service in the sanctuary, with brunch being served in Fellowship Hall at 11:00 AM. The menu will be in the August Messenger and bulletins with sign-up in the Gathering Area. Have a great summer! We look forward to seeing you in September!

- The Senior Committee.

Large Print Bibles

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

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.

13th Triennial Women's Gathering

If you are interested in attending the 13th Triennial Gathering in Des Moines, Iowa, you can still register no later than June 21, 2026.

Information is located on the Women's Unit bulletin board or if you have any questions, contact Gabriela Contreras at 773-380-2747 or via email at Gabriela.Contreras@elca.org. The Women of the ELCA Triennial Gathering takes place every three years and gathers 1500-3000 women leaders, participants, and newcomers for four days of worship, inspiring speakers, workshops, service projects, and more! We invite you to join with our ministry as we seek to nourish women's faith and love and to inspire women to proclaim their identity, intent, and actions. The theme for the 2026 Triennial Gathering is "I am Worthy" focusing on Psalm 139:14 "I am fearfully and wonderfully made."



Ipalamwa & Bomalang'ombe Lab Projects – Mission Outreach

Out of Africa, specifically Tanzania, students of the Iringa Diocese in Tanzania attend secondary schools after their grade or Form which compares to our grade six. These secondary schools are not located close to the villages where students live with their families. During a regular school year, the students may not make it home during holiday breaks because of the lack of transportation, so they remain on campus. Activities during the time when classes aren't in session include maintaining the gardens, which provide food for the students, and also working in the seedling plots of several varieties of trees and fruits. When the seedlings reach a certain growth, they are sold, and the funds are returned to the school. In order for the schools to be certified by the government so the students receive credit for their education, there are certain standards that need to be met. One of those standards is that a school has specifically equipped science labs. Over two years ago, sponsoring congregations of the Saint Paul Synod recognized that two of the secondary schools attended by students receiving scholarships did not have labs meeting those standards for studying science subjects. Each year, national exams are given to all students in secondary schools. In order to advance to the next level, students have to receive passing grades. Providing instruction in science subjects has shown that levels of knowledge increase students' ability to pass the strict exams. Failing to pass a test means a student cannot stay in school and must seek a different direction in their lives. Bega Kwa Bega began a capital funding project to get the funding for building these labs according to the government standards. The bricks for building were made by students, school staff, volunteers, and visitors from Minnesota. Bricks are formed and placed in the sun to be cured. One lab was nearly completed in 2025, and another has the foundation and walls nearly done. Now, in order to complete the roofing before the rainy season comes, it has been determined that \$50,000 will be needed to complete the metal roofing and other features of the work. The rains are not friendly to the bricks and would cause them to deteriorate if they aren't

protected. When we visited Africa, we witnessed the result of buildings of brick that weren't protected. Walls were falling down into crumbled piles of unusable bricks. An appeal came from the Bega Kwa Bega committee to all sponsoring congregations of the Saint Paul Synod to contribute to the funding of the roofing. In response to this request, the Mission Outreach committee voted to give \$1,000 to this fund. The money was what had been received in investment growth, which we saw as a gift that should be passed to a worthy cause. We have students we support with scholarships at the Bomalang'ombe school. The other school is Ipalamwa Secondary School. The building and funding were coordinated by the parish members of the Diocese and their sponsoring congregations in the U.S. The spirit of Bega Kwa Bega was how the project was done. Bega Kwa Bega translates to working shoulder to shoulder. While we cannot visibly see what has been accomplished by our presence in Tanzania, we know that lives have been greatly improved in many ways. Thank you from all those who have benefited from the tremendous support of our congregation through the scholarship program and other projects like the Million Trees and safe water wells.



(The foundation is complete, and walls are nearly done. This next phase of construction will finish the walling, add ring beams*, and then complete the roofing at each school. *What's a ring beam? A ring beam is a continuous, reinforced concrete beam constructed along the top of masonry or concrete block walls to tie the structure together. Acting like a belt, it strengthens the building, prevents wall cracking, and distributes roof loads evenly. It is crucial for structural integrity, particularly for anchoring roofs and resisting lateral forces.)

Parking Lot Progress

As the spring weather is finally warming up, plans have been made to complete the parking lot portion of SPLC's 4th Street Exterior Repair and Refresh project. Within the next few weeks, the entire parking lot will be swept, cracks in the old asphalt filled, and parking spaces will be painted and marked. We are certainly looking



forward to not only finishing this project phase, but also we are excited to see how this improves the overall look of our church property. We love

our neighborhood on the South Hill and want to enhance our presence as we welcome everyone in. Thank you all for your support for this project. You made it all possible! - The 4th Street Exterior Repair and Refresh Committee

Come & Celebrate James!





JAMES IS TURNING ONE!

Get ready for a roaring good time!

Saturday, June 13th

1:00 - 4:00 PM

 **Pioneer Park**
515 2nd St N, Stillwater, MN

 **Rain Location:**
St. Paul Lutheran Church
609 5th St S, Stillwater



Gifts are not expected, just come celebrate with us!

Abendmusik & Festival of Hymns

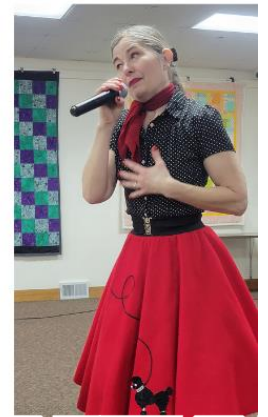


Monday, July 13, 2026, at 7:00 PM, in the Boe Memorial Chapel, St. Olaf College. This outing is sponsored by the Senior Committee and open to the entire congregation. On the recommendation of Pastor Nathan, we chose this program: Abendmusik & Festival of Hymns begins with an extended musical prelude, followed by a worship service filled with hymns both familiar and lesser-known, thoughtful arrangements, and reflective readings. The program runs approximately 2 hours. We have 30 tickets reserved and will travel on a 30-passenger coach bus, leaving the church at 4:45 PM and returning back at approximately 10:00 PM.

Sign-up sheet is in the Gathering Area. Once the 30 tickets are spoken for, please sign up on the Wait List. Sign up guests on the Wait List and indicate who they are a guest of so you can be contacted if tickets become available. The cost is \$10 for everyone. Please use the envelopes next to the sign-up sheet for payment and turn into the office. Make checks payable to St Paul Lutheran Church and note LSM Concert on the memo line. All checks will be held until the event takes place.

SPLC's Volunteer Ministry

Looking for a meaningful way to get involved at SPLC this summer? We have several volunteer opportunities available and would love to have you join us! Volunteers are needed for ushering during worship services, helping with grounds and outdoor beautification, serving with the Altar Guild, and assisting with various summer events and activities. Whether you can help regularly or just once in a while, your time and talents make a difference in the life of our church community. If you are interested in volunteering or would like more information, please contact the church office.



MALT SHOP MELODIES!





Summer is almost here, and Valley Outreach is throwing a party! Join us for an evening of celebration, community, and fun. Enjoy sweet treats from Nelson's Ice Cream (free while supplies last!), purchase food from Egg Roll Queen, participate in exciting raffles, activities for kids. - including an inflatable obstacle course, a StyleXchange Sidewalk Sale, guided tours of our programs, and so much more! Bring the whole family and make it a night to remember! It's free to attend and everyone is welcome!

Date: Wednesday, June 24

Time: 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Location: 1911 Curve Crest Blvd. W.,
Stillwater, MN 55082

StyleXchange News - Spring is the perfect time reassess what's hanging in your closet. If you're holding onto clothes you no longer wear, a seasonal cleanout doesn't just free up space, it puts usable items back into the hands of people who need them. StyleXChange needs help on the sales floor and with clothing sorting. If you can help, please go to info@valleyoutreachmn.org and volunteer.

Plant a Row for Valley Outreach - By planting an extra row for Valley Outreach, you can help ensure clients have access to fresh, healthy produce all season long. Even a small addition to your garden can make a meaningful difference for local families!

Valley Outreach is going solar - This summer they are putting their large roof to work in a new way by installing solar panels that will turn daylight into long-term support for our mission.



Art 4 Shelter 2026 Made an Impact! \$243,337 was raised to support Simpson Housing Services! Many thanks to the artists, attendees, sponsors, volunteers, staff, and community members who made the 16th Annual Art 4 Shelter such a success, including the incredible artist community, who donated more than 2,500 pieces of art.



This year was especially meaningful as they recognized Steve Horsfield and his incredible 14 years of leadership. They were honored to have Mayor Jacob Frey join in the festivities as a surprise guest at the luncheon thanking Steve for his lasting impact at Simpson and in the community.

Trivia Night: A Place Where Knowing Useless Facts Can Make You a Hero!

Join them on Wednesday, June 10th, from 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM at the Eat Street Crossing: 2819 Nicollet Avenue, Minneapolis

Enjoy a fun night of Trivia and great eats and learn more about the many ways you can get involved at Simpson Housing Services.



Prayer Requests

Prayer List Names will remain on our prayer list for one month, unless indicated otherwise.

For those hospitalized or with immediate needs:

Mark C.

Those receiving hospice care: Toby

Those undergoing long-term medical treatments:

Ann Marie O, Jennifer B, Alida P, Pastor Laurel, Ami, Brian J, Lucas J, Renae S, Sonja H, Kellye, Becky O, and Bonnie M.

Those with other ongoing needs: Dollis H., Megan,

Lucy, Chuck C, Jenny B, Dan B, Ron K, Abri B, Brandon C, Steven W, Michael S, Mike S, Joe F, Jerry, Dick, Sophia M, Mary A, Troy A, Marv D, Connor B, Dan J, Jerry S, Sophia F, Kara, Steph D, Brian D, Tyson D, Teegan D, Lexen, Danny, Harry E., Evy & Dave, Diane, Lyle J, Kathy B, Vince S, Jim G, Dean M, Cathy M, Steve P, Al M, and Mark C.

Those homebound or being cared for by others:

Barb D., Ardyce S, Barb D, Nancy T, Judith K, Ann B, Mary Jo D, Orville S, Floyd N, Laurie C, Verna W, Karen L, Diane S, Judith R, Delores K, and Bonnie P.

In Loving Memory:

(names will remain for one year and will be included on All Saints Sunday)

Jacklyn Waterman, Jeffrey Thomsen, Donald Teske, Shirley Nolde, Sally Colemier, Carol Scheel, Charles Olson, Scott Anderson, Thomas Schwietz, Janet Stuessy, Sandra Nolan, Mary Richter, Steven Michaelis, Darrel Henton, James Flynn, Patty Thomsen, Marshall Ray Reams, Jim Hockin, Jacquilyn Pierre, Dorie Nelson, Lois Haase, Marlene Ritzer, Richard Watson, and Holly Halvorson.

Wonder Wednesdays!

Wonder Wednesdays is a fun and welcoming summer program hosted by St. Paul Lutheran Church for children ages 3 years through 4th grade. Held on Wednesday evenings throughout the summer, the program combines food, friendship, games, music, faith, and fun in a lively and faith-filled atmosphere. Families are invited to enjoy supper together before kids participate in engaging activities designed to help them laugh, learn, create, and grow in their faith.



WONDER WEDNESDAYS

Food • Friends • Games • Music • Faith • Fun!

Wednesdays This Summer
at St. Paul Lutheran Church
June 17 • June 24 • July 1 • July 8

5:45 PM – 7:30 PM
Supper Served at 5:45 PM
Program Starts at 6:15 PM
For Kids Ages 3 Years* to 4th Grade
*Adults are asked to stay with 3 & 4 year olds.

Come laugh, play, learn, create,
and wonder together during
these exciting summer evenings!
Bring a friend and join the fun!



Questions? Call Jenny at 218-770-5754, or jenny@stpaulc.org.
www.stpaulc.org 651-439-5970

More Malt Shop Melodies!



Leadership in the Valley Update

This month's Leadership in the Valley program on May 13th, focused on Community and the Arts, and marked our final program day. We spent the morning at the Washington County Heritage Center reflecting on legacy: what we've learned through this experience and how we will put those lessons into action in our communities. Cohort members wrapped up their Community Partnerships small group projects with presentations highlighting their nonprofit partners and the important work being done across the St. Croix Valley.

In the afternoon, we enjoyed a tour with Stillwater Trolley Co. before gathering at the Historic Washington County Courthouse for a tour and to reflect on the Leadership in the Valley journey together.

While this may mark the end of the program, it is also the beginning of new connections, new opportunities, and continued impact throughout our communities.

Our Leadership in the Valley graduation banquet, held on May 14th, was a meaningful way to celebrate the end of an incredible 9-month



journey together. During the evening, we each had the opportunity to introduce one of our fellow cohort members, and then someone introduced me as well. It was special to reflect on how much we have learned about our communities, leadership, and

ourselves throughout this experience. The banquet was a wonderful way to honor the connections, growth, and memories we shared over the past nine months. Thanks again for this opportunity, I grew a lot through the experience!

2026 Twins' Lutheran Night!

Lutheran Night with the Twins - August 11th! Tickets are \$47 for friends and members to age 54, and \$37 for members aged 55+. Thank you to the Fellowship, and Senior Committees for offsetting the cost! Your ticket gets you Club Level Seating in Legends Landing along the third base line AND all-you-can-eat ballpark fare! Please sign-up in the office, with payment, by Monday, July 27th! The cost of the bus transportation is included (pick up time TBD). The bus will return to the church after the game. Please indicate if you will be riding with us when you sign up. Hope to see you at Lutheran Night! Win Twins!

SPLC IS GOING TO THE BALLPARK!



LUTHERAN NIGHT!
MN TWINS VS. THE ATLANTA BRAVES
TUESDAY, AUGUST 11TH
6:40 GAME START
Tickets are \$47 for friends
and members to age 54
\$37 for members aged 55+



**PRICE INCLUDES FOOD,
NON-ALCOHOL BEVERAGES, AND
THE BUS RIDE TO THE GAME**

**WE ARE ASKING FOR PAYMENT
AT THE TIME OF SIGN-UP**

SIGN-UP IN THE OFFICE

Luke's Graduation Party

Pastor Nathan's second son, Luke, recently graduated from high school. All are welcome to a reception in his honor on Saturday, June 6th, from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM at Lutheran Church of the Resurrection in Roseville, 3115 Victoria Street N.



St. Paul Lutheran Church Calendar

As of 5/29/2026

June 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 10:00 AM Senior Committee	2 5:30 PM 75 th Anniversary Meeting 6:30 PM Worship Committee	3 12:00 PM Staff Meeting	4 9:00 AM Quilters 3:00 PM Mission Outreach Meeting 4:30 PM Fellowship Meeting 7:00 PM AA Mtg. in Fellowship Hall	5	6
7 9:00 AM Service 10:00 AM Coffee & Tea Time 11:00 AM 55+ Worship	8 5:15 PM CYF Committee Meeting	9 3:00 PM Memorials & Grants Meeting 5:30 PM Financial Operations Meeting	10 10:00 AM Worship at Oak Park Sr. Living 10:00 AM Executive Committee Zoom Meeting 12:00 PM Staff Meeting	11 9:00 AM Quilters 7:00 PM AA Mtg. in Fellowship Hall	12	13 1:00 PM – Rain Site for James' Birthday Party in Fellowship Hall 2:00 PM Don Teske Celebration of Life (Sanctuary & Lounge)
14 9:00 AM Service 10:00 AM Coffee & Tea Time	15	16 6:30 PM Church Council	17 11:00 AM Worship at Boutwells 5:45 PM Wonder Wednesday!	18 9:00 AM Quilters 7:00 PM AA Mtg. in Fellowship Hall	19	20 Newsletter Deadline
21 9:00 AM Service 10:15 AM Sunday Shine	22	23 1:30 PM Sarah Bible Study	24 5:45 PM Wonder Wednesday!	25 9:00 AM Quilters 7:00 PM AA Mtg. in Fellowship Hall	26	27
28 9:00 AM Service 10:00 AM Coffee & Tea Time	29	30	For the most current and up-to-date information, please visit our online calendar at stpaulc.org.			

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: www.stpaulc.org