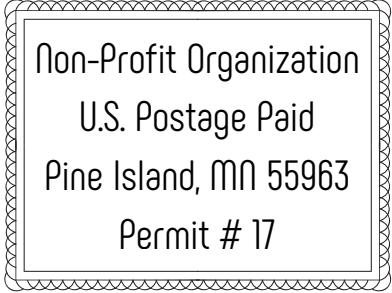


Saint Paul Lutheran Church
PO Box 357
Pine Island, MN 55963-0357

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



September Newsletter 2025

Our Mission

*"Guided by God's love, we are called to welcome, love, and work for God's people
.....here, there, and every where."*

Saint Paul Lutheran Church
214 3rd ST SW
Pine Island, MN 55963-9307

Saint Paul Staff
Rev. Jim Scaife

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9am to 3pm

**Worship Schedule: 9am Sunday: In- Person, YouTube,
and Facebook**



507-356-8925



saintpaulpi@yahoo.com



www.saintpaulpimn.org

The Time Between Pastors

A Special Time For Congregations

A Time to Turn to God and Grow Spiritually

*"Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labor in vain."
Psalm 127:1*

I am sure you are hoping and praying that the new permanent pastor will arrive soon. The reality is, it is likely that I will be here as the interim pastor for at least a year. This is how it goes. It takes many months to get the forms together, interview the candidates, determine compensation and finally call the new pastor. However, in the mean time, the "interim period," there are important things for us to do as a congregation.

Rejoice!

The first important task for congregations as they wait for the Lord to bring the next pastor is to rejoice. We look at the past and rejoice in the faithful care of our Heavenly Father throughout the decades. SPLC has been around a long time. Wonderful, faithful pastors have served year after year. Members, blessed by the Holy Spirit, have worshipped together and cared for one another Sunday after Sunday. As you give thanks to God in prayer, remember Pastor Marie and the pastors before her. Remember all those who have taught Sunday school or played instruments. Remember those who have cared for the building and served on the council. Rejoice in SPLC's past and the Presence of God with us now as we look to the future. Also, rejoice in the people who are present now who share their gifts and lead the congregation. Remember Jesus's words "And lo, I am with you always even unto the end of the age."

Reflect!

Another task of this interim period is to reflect. To help the pastor candidates understand this congregation we must reflect on how God uses us. God has put us in this place and given us certain gifts...Why? How do we use our resources to glorify Christ in this place? What are the most important things we do through SPLC?

It is hard to do this type of reflection. Usually, these questions are not on our minds. But, for pastors who may come to serve, these are very important questions. The pastor candidates are already reflecting on the gifts God has given them and the place God wants them to use their gifts. It takes time to do this, but it pays off in the long run. The ministry of the incoming pastor and the leaders of the congregation come into focus as we do this reflection.

Renew!

The third task for congregations during an interim period is to renew. First and foremost, let us renew our commitment to Jesus Christ. He alone is head of the church. He is the one we worship. He is the one we serve. In the Gospel of John, Jesus promises to send the Holy Spirit. As we await the coming of the next pastor, let us renew our hearts with the fruit of the Holy Spirit; "love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self control (Gal. 5:22)." As we dwell in the power of the Holy Spirit, we relate to one another with love and joy and we begin to see Christ's direction for the congregation.

As we rejoice, reflect and renew our commitment to Christ, the way (as our Quaker brothers and sisters say) will become clear. We will know the ministry God is calling us to in this time and place. Our Call Committee will know the pastor God's wants us to call.



Important Dates

September

Church Office Closed.....	September 1
Rally Day.....	September 7
First Day of Sunday School.....	September 7
Blessing of the Backpack.....	September 14
Confirmation Orientation.....	September 17
Council Meeting.....	September 18
Youth/Family Bonfire.....	September 19



October

Three Year Old Bible Milestone.....	October 5
Council Meeting.....	October 16
No Sunday School.....	October 19
No Sunday School.....	October 26
Confirmation Sunday.....	October 26



November

All Saints.....	November 2
1 st Grade Prayer Cube Milestone.....	November 9
Council Meeting.....	November 20
Church Office Closed.....	November 27
No Sunday School.....	November 30



Get To Know Your Fellow Members

Get to Know Members of Saint Paul Lutheran!



AMANDA AND MACKINSEY (MAC) NYGAARD

MEMBERS SINCE: 2024

HOMETOWNS: AMANDA: ALBANY, MN
MAC: WEST FARGO, ND

HOBBIES: OUR KIDS ARE OUR LIFE! OUTSIDE OF THEIR ACTIVITIES, WE ENJOY BEING ACTIVE OUTSIDE WITH RUNNING, HIKING, HUNTING, AND CAMPING.

ABOUT US

CHILDREN: MAYA (6), JACK (4), JAMESON (2)

PLACES OF EMPLOYMENT: AMANDA: MAYO CLINIC - PEDIATRIC PHYSICAL THERAPIST
MAC: ALLSTATE PETERBILT - DIESEL TECHNICIAN

PETS: MIKKO, OUR 1-YEAR-OLD YELLOW LAB

FAITH STORY

WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT SAINT PAUL LUTHERAN?
WE LOVE HOW WELCOMING THE CHURCH COMMUNITY IS AND HOW GREAT THE CHILDREN'S PROGRAM IS! WHEN WE FIRST MOVED HERE, WE ATTENDED SEVERAL CHURCHES IN THE AREA, AND THIS CONGREGATION IS WHERE WE FELT MOST WELCOME! WE ALSO LOVE THE TRADITIONAL CHURCH SERVICE THAT RESEMBLES HOW WE GREW UP AND WANTED OUR KIDS TO GROW AND LEARN ABOUT JESUS IN THIS SPACE.

FAVORITE BIBLE VERSE OR BIBLE STORY:
ISAIAH 55:9, JOSHUA 1:9. DAVID AND GOLIATH AND THE BIRTH OF JESUS!

HOW HAVE YOU SERVED HERE AT SAINT PAUL LUTHERAN?
AMANDA: CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS & BUSY BAGS
MAC: HELPED HANG DRYWALL

Get to Know Members of Saint Paul Lutheran!



NORM AND DONNA NIELSEN

MEMBERS SINCE: DONNA-SINCE BAPTISM
NORM-JOINED AFTER MARRIAGE

HOMETOWNS: DONNA: PINE ISLAND, MN
NORM: CHATFIELD, MN

HOBBIES: DONNA: QUILTING, STITCHING, CARD GROUP, BOOK CLUB, VOLUNTEERING AT EVERGREEN AND PI AREA HOME SERVICES
NORM: CLASSIC TRACTORS AND CARS, FARMING, COFFEE WITH THE GUYS AND HUNTING.

ABOUT US

CHILDREN: DEBORAH AND JOEL KNOX, SAM AND ALEX; REBEKAH AND CHRIS FIERST, AYDA AND AJ

PLACES OF EMPLOYMENT: BOTH TAUGHT AT PI SCHOOLS—DONNA WAS A BUSINESS TEACHER; NORM WAS A SOCIAL STUDIES TEACHER. NOW THEY ARE BOTH RETIRED.

FAITH STORY

WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT SAINT PAUL LUTHERAN?
THE SOCIAL ASPECT - VISITING WITH PEOPLE

HOW HAVE YOU SERVED HERE AT SAINT PAUL LUTHERAN?
DONNA—COUNCIL TREASURER, FINANCIAL SECRETARY, SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT, ORGANIST SUB, OFFERING MONEY COUNTER, COMMUNION SERVER, LESSON READER, SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE/TREATS SERVER, MISSION QUILTER, SENIOR QUILTS CROSS STITCH PATCH COORDINATOR, OFFICE SUB, USHER
NORM—USHER, SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE/TREATS SERVER

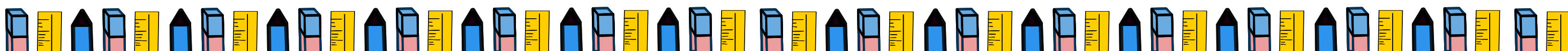
Become a Member

As a congregation rooted in faith, fellowship, and service, Saint Paul Lutheran Church is always blessed to welcome new individuals and families into our church community. If you've been attending services or events and are considering making Saint Paul your church home, we invite you to take the next step toward membership.

Our next New Member Sunday will take place in October. This is a special day in the life of our congregation when we formally welcome new members during worship and celebrate their commitment to walk with us in faith and ministry.

Becoming an official member at Saint Paul Lutheran involves attending a brief class prior to New Member Sunday. This class offers a chance to learn more about our church's mission, ministries, and what it means to be a member of our faith community. It's also a great opportunity to ask questions and meet others who are on the same journey. Whether you're new to the ELCA or are transferring from another congregation, the class is designed to be welcoming, informative, and meaningful.

If you are interested in becoming a member of Saint Paul Lutheran Church, we would love to hear from you. Please reach out to the church office at saintpaulpi@yahoo.com or contact our Evangelism Council Chair, Molly Olson, at sjoquist.moll@gmail.com for more information or to sign up for the class.



A Word From Your Youth Director

Friends and families of Saint Paul Lutheran Church,

We are so excited to kick off a brand-new season of youth ministry! Fall is a time of fresh beginnings, and we can't wait to reconnect with all of you. Here's what's coming up soon:

 September 14th – Youth Ministry Planning Meeting & Gathering Space Opening

Join us right after church as we share our vision for the year ahead and officially open the new Gathering Space! This is a great chance for the whole congregation to see what's happening in youth ministry and learn how you can be part of making an impact in the lives of our young people.

 September 19th – Youth & Family Bonfire (3rd grade & up)
6–9 PM at church

We're kicking off the year with a cozy night around the fire, roasting s'mores and hotdogs, playing games, and enjoying time together! This event is for all youth 3rd grade and up, and younger siblings are welcome to join. Please RSVP so we can have your youth packet ready and enough treats for everyone!

 Youth Program Registration is OPEN!

Register your youth today to stay in the loop and help us place them in the right age group for all upcoming events, service projects, and Bible studies. Don't miss out on the exciting things God is doing this fall and winter!

 A Note From Stephanie:

I've missed spending time with all of our amazing youth this summer, and I'm thrilled for this new season of ministry! God is at work in big and small ways, and I can't wait to see how our youth grow in faith, friendship, and service this year. Let's step into this season with open hearts and a spirit of joy as we walk together in God's love.



Faith Formation

"It Takes A Village" – Emily O'Brien, Sunday School Director

This summer we went in a different direction with what you would normally know as VBS - we had 1 night per month that we called Summer with Saint Paul Kids! We had 14-20 kids each night & enjoyed connecting through our faith over the summer! I cannot thank EVERYONE enough for any sort of help or support for our kids' education & gatherings. From big to small, it does not go unnoticed. I can't say thank you enough to everyone!

-Molly Olson, Sara Klennert, Amanda Nygaard, Stephanie Raj, Mel Wees, Jess Anderson & Karla Thompson for helping plan our nights & volunteering with our kids

-Jess Anderson for helping with the massive clean up job we needed after our 3rd night!

-Ashley Gullickson for emailing, printing & everything administrative!

-Dan Weber for always making sure the A/C is on for us!

-Claire Olson for helping contain the chaos!

-Fred Knudsvig for supplying arts & crafts material

-Our families for bringing your kids to these summer nights & the items you brought for the food shelf!

Thank you & looking forward to our 2025-2026 year of Sunday school!



Confirmation

As we begin a new season of spiritual growth and preparation, we invite all 7th and 8th grade students to attend the Confirmation Orientation Meeting on **Wednesday, September 17th at 6:30 PM**. This meeting will provide essential information about the confirmation journey, expectations, and schedule for the year ahead.

If you have not yet registered for confirmation, we kindly ask you to do so as soon as possible. Registration materials have been sent out, but if you have not received any communication from the office, please contact us at saintpaulpi@yahoo.com

For students who will be confirmed on October 26th, please remember to complete and return your **Confirmation Information Form**. In addition, if you do not already have one, you will need to order a **confirmation robe**. These steps are necessary to finalize preparations for this important milestone in your faith journey.

Finally, there will be a **Confirmation Rehearsal** for all confirmands on October 12th immediately following worship. Attendance at this rehearsal is required to ensure that all students are fully prepared for the Confirmation service.

September

SUN 31	MON Sep 1	TUE 2	WED 3	THU 4	FRI 5	SAT 6
9am Worship 10am Fellowship 10am Handbell Practice	Church Office Closed 8:30am Loose Threads Quilting 1pm Chair Volleyball	11am Ministerial Text Study 6:30pm Lions Board Meeting		11:30am Ministerial Meeting 6:30pm Special Gifts Meeting		
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Rally Day 9am Sunday School 9am Worship 10am Fellowship 10am Handbell Practice	8:30am Loose Threads Quilting 1pm Chair Volleyball	11am Ministerial Text Study 6:30pm Building and Grounds Mee				
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Blessing of the Backpack 9am Sunday School 9am Worship 10am Fellowship 10am Handbell Practice 10:15am Youth Event Planning Mee	8:30am Loose Threads Quilting 1pm Chair Volleyball	11am Ministerial Text Study	6:30pm Confirmation Orientation	7pm Council Meeting	6pm Youth/Family Bonfire Grades	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
9am Sunday School 9am Worship 10am Fellowship 10am Handbell Practice	8:30am Loose Threads Quilting 1pm Chair Volleyball	11am Ministerial Text Study	6:30pm Confirmation	9am Cancer Support Group		
28	29	30	Oct 1	2	3	4
9am Sunday School 9am Worship 10am Fellowship 10am Handbell Practice	8:30am Loose Threads Quilting 1pm Chair Volleyball	11am Ministerial Text Study	6:30pm Confirmation	11:30am Ministerial Meeting		