

Living Waters

September 2021

Ordering Chaos

Pastor Zak

I would be lost without my planner. I use this little book to maintain my daily schedule, plan ahead and generally organize my life. This past year I have been making (and revising) so many different plans, personally and pastorally, that I've decided that I may only use pencil when writing in my planner. The past 18 months I've convinced myself that it's OK for plans to not pan out how I want...or so I thought.

THE WORKS OF HIS HANDS



----- ARE -----
FAITHFUL
and **JUST.**

PSALM 111:7

Last week I briefly lost my planner, and with it, any sense of control or direction over anything. It turned out I wasn't as *laissez faire* about plans as I had assumed. As I frantically retraced my steps to find said planner (which was actually in my work bag in a seldom used pocket), it dawned on me that my planner had become a safety blanket. Something that brings calm and order to chaos, which orders my days and the events therein. This sounds uncannily like God's role in Genesis, ordering chaos into creation and laying out each day one-by-one.

Perhaps I need to learn to look for God more in my plans recognizing my job isn't to order the days, but instead appreciate the gift that each one is.



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Worship

In-Person

Sundays 8:30 & 10:00 am
Worship times remain the same! We continue to worship outside on the first Sunday of the month.

Online/Livestream

Watch the 8:30 am service live on [YouTube](#), or anytime after that!

Communion Pick-Up

10:30 am–12 pm

Wednesdays

Communion distribution has moved to 536 S. Cornell. Park in the driveway and knock on the front door. Home delivery can also be

Congregational Life...



ProJECT Forward & Worship Update

Each and every day there's something new happening. A new sound, a new piece of machinery or a new discovery previously hidden under a floor or behind a wall... and it is all thrilling!!! Construction is progressing quickly as we begin to near some of the big "milestones" in our work.



That being said, the ongoing construction will cause us to maintain our current schedule and routines in and through the month of September. Even as we make the transition into the fall months and the return to school we continue to gather Sundays for in-person worship at 8:30 & 10 am. Services are made available through YouTube as a livestream or recording as well. Remember that we are worshipping outside on the front lawns of 536 & 540 S. Cornell on September 5.

Keeping following construction progress on our [ProJECT Forward blog!](#)

#EndHungerNow

Step by Step on October 3, 12:30 pm

This year, join your St. Paul friends as we help end hunger locally and around the world by walking together in the Great Prairie Trail CROP Hunger Walk on Sunday, October 3. We'll meet at First Church of Lombard (220 S. Main) at 12:30 for the three-mile walk. Don't worry, we'll stagger team starts so that we avoid congestion.

Find all the walk details and sign up here: [St. Paul's CROP Walk team page](#). There, you can set up your individual walker page and collect donations online (or in person!).

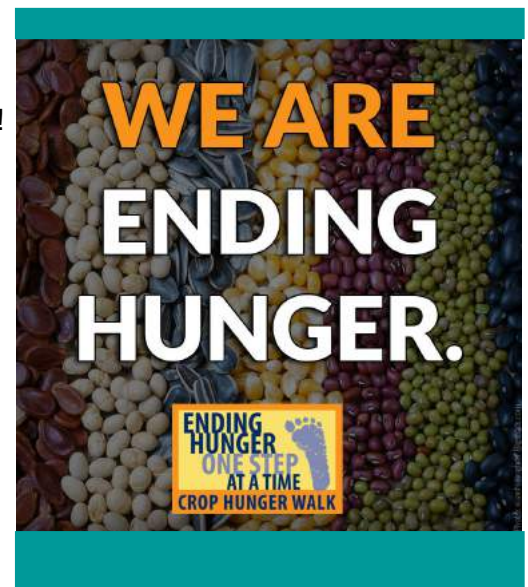
Donations fund local pantries (see sidebar) and the programs of [Church World Service](#) (The CROP Walk People). This organization works with people around the world who have so much less than we do, providing the tools so that they can earn a living and feed their families.

Note: If you prefer, walk on your own and collect donations in a "virtual walk" in your neighborhood. Enjoy a walk on a fall day and help your neighbors. Win-win! Please register even if walking on your own.

Or, if you can't walk or don't know a walker whom you can sponsor, donate any amount online at [St. Paul's team page](#). Thank you!

Great News! St. Paul has contributed \$ 150 in support of the walk this year. Can you match that amount in funds you collect? Challenge yourself!

For walk details and team information, [click here](#). Follow the walk on [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#). Questions? Talk to Shirley J.



We need you in this fight so that we can #EndHungerNow!

Food insecurity impacts about 6% of people in DuPage County. Gather your family and friends and help your neighbors through the funds you raise or donate. Funds raised will support these pantries. Last year, they split almost \$6000.

Lombard/Villa Park Food Pantry
Disciples Food Pantry, *Villa Park*
Addison Township Food Pantry
ICNA Relief Food Pantry, *Glendale Heights*
The Outreach House / Community Table, *Lombard*

...and More!



Beer & Hymns

September 3, 6:30 pm

It's Back to School, and Back to Beer & Hymns! In the Back yard --- at Bob and Doreen Fritz's house, weather permitting. Bring your own chair, bug spray, and beer (or anything else you'd like to sip on). Rain date is Sunday, September 5. With the sun setting earlier and earlier, we are planning on 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. Bring your hymnal if you have one. We will have extras to share.

New mobile app for giving!

If you'd like to use a mobile app for making donations, then your wish has come true! There is a new mobile app to replace the **GivePlus** app. To use the new app, here's all you need to do:

- Download the new **Vanco Mobile app** from either the **Apple App store** or **Google Play store**.
- Search the app for "St. Paul Lutheran Church" and select it.
- If you already have an online giving account, log in. Otherwise, create an account.
- From there you can select the fund, the amount, and the frequency of your gift.

See this [brochure](#) for a description of this with pictures or contact [Alice](#) with any questions.



July Numbers

Giving: \$30,227
(including online: \$16,060)

Expenses: \$41,432

YTD Giving vs. Expenses: \$8,157

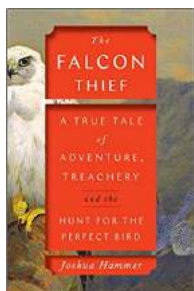
Other Statistics

Date	Attendance	Views	Viewers
7/4	62	117	77
7/11	66	61	56
7/18	81	63	57
7/25	102	70	64

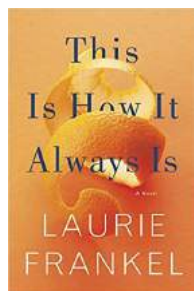
Book Club

September 13, 6:45 pm

St. Paul Book Club will meet at the Villa Park Gazebo this month, located on the Prairie Path between Princeton and Ardmore. Bring your own chair! Please contact [Marti Seaton](#) to be included on our email list.



On **Monday, September 13** we will discuss Joshua Hammer's *The Falcon Thief* which follows the lives of a smuggler of rare birds worth millions and the detective of the United Kingdom's Wildlife Crime Unit.



On **Monday, October 4** we will discuss a novel about a family with a boy who wants to transition to being a girl, *This is How it Always Is* by Laurie Frankel.

Youth and Family Ministry

Fall Education Activities for Children & Youth

Sunday morning education activities for children and youth 3 years old – 12th grade will resume in-person at 9 am on Sunday, October 10.

Please register your child(ren) for Sunday School, Confirmation, and High School Hangout using this link: <https://forms.gle/wDrxbHTP7MTPBhbq9>.

Please register by October 1!



Back-to-School Blessing September 12

School may already be back in session, but it's never too late for a blessing! Join us for a backpack blessing during worship services on September 12. All students, teachers, administrators (really anyone working in an educational setting) are welcome to bring their backpacks to be blessed for the new year. Between services we will gather to share some frozen treats and craft some sweet backpack decor. All are welcome!

Logos is back! Mondays at 7 pm, beginning September 13

All youth and friends who are in 9-12 grade are invited to join us on Monday evenings beginning Sept. 13 at 7 pm at Starbucks on Roosevelt Rd. (near Sonic). This is an informal gathering – you do not need to buy coffee to participate – where we will check in with highs and lows and then have a brief discussion. This year we will be using a deck of Reflection Cards and answer one question each week centered on a variety of themes including intention, resilience, adventure and compassion. (We will follow all masking guidelines mandated by Starbucks).

Youth Gathering Registration Meeting September 12, 11 am

We will meet in the sanctuary following the second service to discuss details, fill out registration forms and collect the \$150 deposit for the upcoming ELCA Youth Gathering.

Questions or if you are interested but cannot make the meeting please reach out to Judy so alternative plans for completing the necessary forms and collecting the deposit can be facilitated.

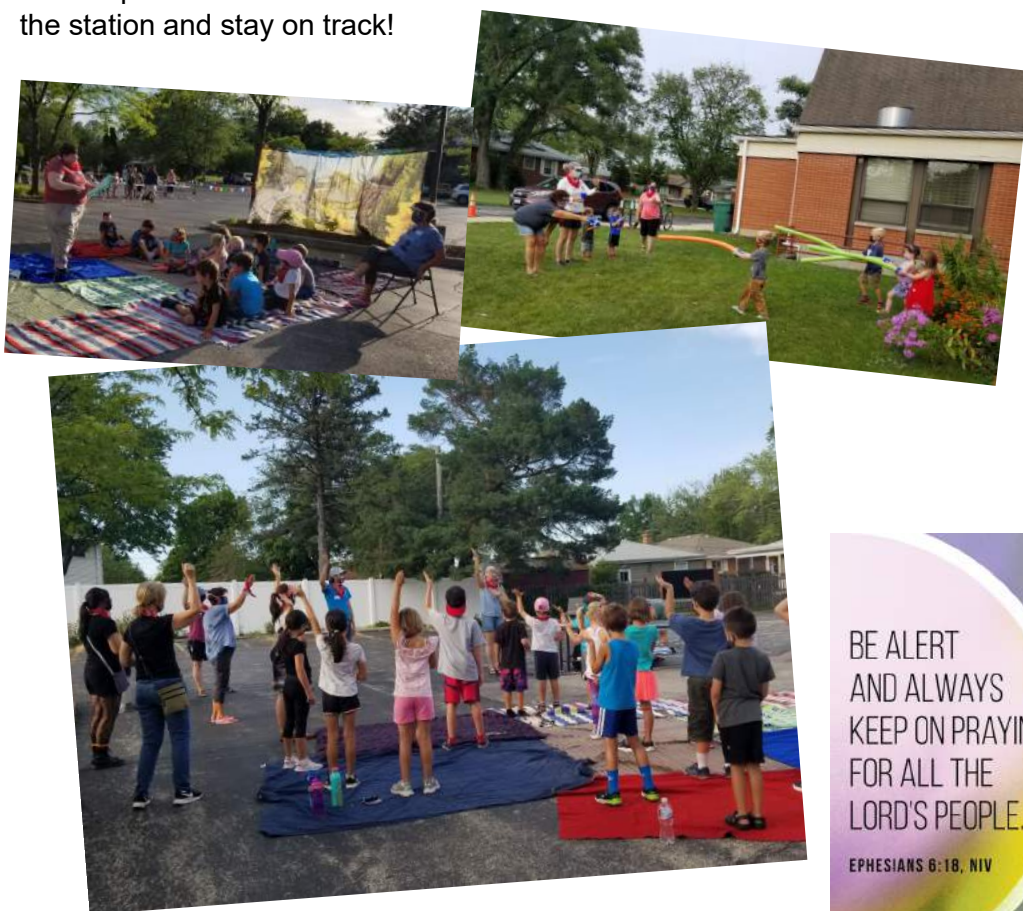


*Back-to-School Youth
Bocce Ball Outing*

Prayers

Riding the “Rocky Railway”

We might not have gone all the way to the Rocky Mountains for Vacation Bible School this year, but we survived three days in the Midwest August heat and managed to miss all the severe weather in our area, too! This year’s VBS was a new experience all the way around: new location, new ways of partnering with our friends at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church (Lombard), new time, everything! And yet— kids showed up, volunteers showed up, and we learned together how Jesus’ power gives us hope, helps us be bold, and helps us be good friends. Huge thanks to everyone who helped the VBS train leave the station and stay on track!



Thank You!

To my dear St. Paul family:

Thank you for your unwavering support, generosity, cards, messages and prayers. The past two months have been quite challenging, and all those prayers have been instrumental in giving me the strength I’ve needed to fight this battle, which is far from over. Many blessings and thanks to all!



In God’s love,
Karin Welsh



Prayer List

Names will remain on the prayer list for three weeks, or longer by request. To submit a prayer request please use the online [Prayer Request form](#), email prayers@stpaulvp.org, or contact the church office.

Prayers of Healing

Ron Kimble, Patrick Egan, Sabrina Tessing (friend of Kathy Jones), Dorothy Hadrava, Amy Fisher (daughter of Arlene Jensen), Veronika Brandt, Melinda Brent, Margaret Golden, Arlene Jensen, Nan Marcum, Tommy Shallcross, Jim Sherlock (brother of Diane Sherlock), Steve Swanson, Karin Welsh, All Caregivers

Prayers for the Bereaved

Family & Friends of Josiah Kassahun (friend of Franklin Ishida), Family & Friends of Carmelita Augsburger (friend of Bev Parks)

September 2021

All events subject to change. Items in *italics* are **in-person** events; all other events are virtual. [View the calendar at www.spaulvp.org](http://www.spaulvp.org) for more information and Zoom links, or contact the church office.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 9:30A Bible Study 10:30A Communion	2 CHURCH BLDG CLOSED	3 CHURCH BLDG CLOSED 6:30P Beer & Hymns	4
5 8:30A Worship 10:00A Worship 10:45A Wired Word 2:00P Hands & Feet	6 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	7 10:00A Staff Mtg	8 9:30A Bible Study 10:30A Communion 7:00P Choir	9 7:00P Youth Com	10	11 9:00A Playgroup
12 BACK-TO-SCHOOL BLESSING & NEW MEMBERS 8:30A Worship 10:00A Worship 10:45A Wired Word 11:00A Youth Gath Mtg	13 6:30P Finance 6:45P Book Club 7:00P Logos 7:30 Exec Council	14 10:00A Staff Mtg 7:00P WMA	15 9:30A Bible Study 10:30A Communion 7:00P Choir	16	17	18
19 8:30A Worship 10:00A Worship 10:45A Wired Word	20 LIVING WATERS DEADLINE 10:00A Staff Mtg 6:30P DayCare Bd 7:00P Logos	21 7:00P Council	22 9:30A Bible Study 10:30A Communion 7:00P Choir	23	24	25 9:00A Playgroup
26 8:30A Worship 10:00A Worship 10:45A Wired Word	27 7:00P Logos	28 10:00A Staff Mtg	29 9:30A Bible Study 10:30A Communion 7:00P Choir	30		

Community and World



Day Care and Kindergarten News

The students and staff ended the summer session with an exciting outside visit from the Bubble Man and a walking field trip to the Villa Park Library. The new school year began on August 18 with 6 Kindergarten students and 20 Preschool and Pre-K students. Meet the Teacher Night was held on August 19 and we're so pleased to welcome our new lead teacher, Ms. Stephanie.

After many years of teaching at St. Paul, we said goodbye to Ms. Maggy, our asst. director and Preschool teacher. She accepted a director position and we wish her well with many thanks. We have a position open for teaching Kindergarten. Please keep the children and staff in your prayers as we begin a new school year.



“Traveling Route LSSI”

October 7, 6:30 pm

Join Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI) for “Traveling Route LSSI,” for their 40th annual True Friend Celebration—a statewide event featuring in-person watch parties and virtual options for participation. Proceeds will support LSSI’s Children’s Community Services, including their Foster Care Program. Keynote speaker Rick Steves, Traveling Writer and TV Personality, will explore the idea of travel as a spiritual act that promotes empathy, solidarity, and connection. Beverly Moody and the life of Richard Moody will be honored with this year’s True Friend Award.

Learn more [here](#) - Registration opening soon!



545 S. Ardmore Ave. Villa Park, IL 60181
630-832-5580 | www.stpaulvp.org

Loved by God, we grow, care, give, and share in Jesus' name.

St. Paul Leadership

Church Council

President: Mark Freedlund
Vice President: Tom Pfenning
Treasurer: Glen Hoyle
Secretary: Katie Briseno
Financial Secretary: Cathy Caron
Caring Commissioner: Laura Albert
Congregation and Community Commissioner: vacant
Education Commissioner: Rachel Hauser
Property Commissioner: Joel Johnson
Stewardship Commissioner: John Freidheim
Worship, Music, and Arts Commissioner: Cindy Johnson
Youth Commissioners: Cheryl Wolf and Wendy Biggs

Staff

Pastor: Rev. Zachary Wagner
Deacon of Ministry: Christine Yucha
Director of Music: Cynthia Viise
Director of Youth Ministry: Judy Nuehring
Administrative Assistant: Alice Ramsay
Director of Family Music: Kristen Rosenwinkel
Worship & Technology Assistants:
Fiona Korbyban and Andrew Speidel

St. Paul Lutheran Church is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and a Reconciling in Christ community.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Stay Connected

Phone: 630-832-5580

[Email](mailto:office@stpaulvp.org): office@stpaulvp.org

[Website](http://www.stpaulvp.org): www.stpaulvp.org

[Sign up for our email list](#) to receive the latest news and information from St. Paul!

