

# Living Waters

October 2021

## Enjoying the Moment

Pastor Zak

I have always loved October. I love the crispness of the air (Sweater Weather). It's now socially acceptable to enjoy the tastes of the season, including apple cider, pumpkin spice everything and Halloween candy (except for candy corn, that's a "hard pass"). Speaking of Halloween, I love the excitement of the day as we listen to our boys carefully plan what they want to dress up as this year (surprise...Star Wars!). In fact, October 31 also happens to be my wife's birthday (two days after mine) and our celebration of Luther and the Reformers (my favorite Sunday of the year). It's all of these little things that come together to make October such a special month for me. A pleasant distraction from all of life's worries.

*"[Jesus said] So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today." (Matthew 6:34)*

This past year has had plenty of worries, which is why I've come to appreciate the little things in life more and more. I tend to always be looking ahead to the "next thing," but sometimes it's about enjoying the moment. It's about taking life one day at a time, recognizing each day as a gracious gift from God. There's nothing wrong with looking ahead, as long as we don't look past what's standing in front of us. We may not always like the trouble we see, especially this past year, and yet we know that God always stands beside us.

## New Worship Schedule Beginning October 10, 8 & 10am

We have been blessed with favorable weather and will continue worshipping outside as long as we can, on the front lawns of 536 & 540 S. Cornell.

**On October 10, we will be starting our new "8 - 9 - 10 Schedule." Worship will take place at 8 & 10 am with education activities for children and youth occurring in-between at 9 am.**

Wired Word will continue to meet after the second service. Invite a friend!



## BLESSING of the Animals October 3, 9:30 am

In celebration of the Feast Day of Francis of Assisi, all pets, stuffed animals, or pictures of pets (and their owners!) are invited to attend this brief liturgy of blessing! We'll gather outside in front of 540 S. Cornell and give thanks for the variety of shapes, sizes, and noises made by God's creation!



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## Worship

### In-Person

#### Sundays

We'll be outside as long as the weather holds out! New worship times of 8 & 10 am begin October 10.

### Online/Livestream

Watch the first 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 arranged.

# Congregational Life...

## ProJECT Forward

There's plenty going on as ProJECT Forward construction rolls on. On Sunday, September 12 the congregation approved the funding (an additional \$650,000) to engage Phase 2 this fall, which includes additional site work, demolition and remodeling of the future parsonage at 536 S. Cornell. The overall timeline for the exterior work does not change, just the fact that it'll be occurring all at once, which brings with it cost and time efficiencies.

We are hopeful that the front parking lot will reopen later this month, and with it access to the newly installed elevator through the North Entrance as well. This is certainly exciting news and will once more make our building fully accessible. We will communicate this milestone in construction as soon as everything is ready to go. The interior of the building is quickly taking shape as walls go up and finishes go in. We will need your help to move in and "reclaim" our spaces again. Be on the lookout for invitations to these "Moving Parties," as many hands make light work.

Speaking of moving, please note that Pr. Zak and his family are moving to a rental property in Elmhurst to accommodate the work associated with construction. This is a temporary relocation until they can move into the renovated parsonage at 536 S. Cornell. In the meantime, this does mean that Pr. Zak may not be quite as readily available as he has been in the past, and will be commuting for the first time since moving in almost 4½ years ago.

We continue to celebrate your overwhelming generosity in supporting this major ProJECT with your gifts and prayers. Together we are creating spaces that will serve our congregation and the community for decades to come as we look forward to what God has in store for us at St. Paul. Thank you for your continued blessings and keep following construction progress on our [ProJECT Forward blog!](#)



## CROP Walk: Walk with us so that Step by Step, we can #EndHungerNow

October 3, 12:30 pm

St. Paul will team up with our friends from Holy Trinity and help end hunger locally and around the world by walking together in the [Great Prairie Trail CROP Hunger Walk](#). We'll meet at First Church of Lombard (220 S. Main) at 12:30 pm for the three-mile walk. Find all the walk details and sign up here: [St. Paul's team page](#). Set up your secure individual walker page and collect donations online (or in person!).

Donations fund local food pantries and the programs of [Church World Service](#) responding to emergency needs in Haiti (earthquake), Louisiana and New York (hurricane impact) as well as refugee assistance.

If you prefer, walk on your own and collect donations in a "virtual walk" in your neighborhood. 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](#). Questions? Contact Shirley J. Thank you!

## Exploring our Welcome

October 14, 7 pm



As a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) church, St.

Paul has a statement of welcome intended to demonstrate our inclusive values and invitation to all people. But no statement is perfect! Join us for this important conversation to explore St. Paul's [current welcome statement](#) and discuss how we might expand our welcome to include a commitment to "racial equity" or "anti-racism," a new requirement for all RIC organizations. New members and those impacted by our welcome statement especially invited to attend. We will meet in-person at church.

...and More!

## Wine, Women and the Word

October 5, 7 pm via Zoom

We are excited to resume our gatherings and continue our discussion of *The Friendship of Women: Hidden Tradition of the Bible* by Joan Chittister. October's chapter will be Lydia. New members are welcome to join, please contact [Judy](#) if you would like to be added to the email list.

## Lenten Devotional: Help Needed!

We are seeking writers and partners to help with the preparation and production of the 2022 St. Paul Lenten Devotional, which will be distributed in a daily digital format from Ash Wednesday (March 2) through Holy Saturday (April 16). Please sign up [here](#) to participate in this special spiritual ministry, now in its 21<sup>st</sup> year! For more information, contact [Marti Seaton](#) or [Emy Ishida](#).

## "Giving in Generosity" Stewardship Campaign

This fall we celebrate the astounding generosity of our community and invite an opportunity for continued generosity as we prepare for 2022. This marks the third and final year of our "First, We Give of Ourselves" Stewardship campaign. The past two years we have explored "Giving in Grace" and "Giving in Gratitude." This year we celebrate "Giving in Generosity."

Generosity is not predicated by something we have or are persuaded to give, rather it is a condition of the heart. Generosity is a heart brimming with joy and thanksgiving for what has been given along with the delight of sharing what has first been received. Generosity embodies the words written in Acts, "...it is more blessed to give than to receive." (Acts 20:35b).

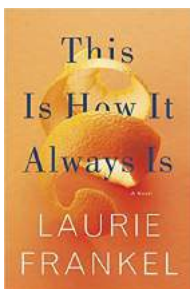
In the coming weeks you will receive a mailing inviting you to give in generosity by filling out a commitment card for the year ahead. Thank you for the many ways you share generously with our congregation!



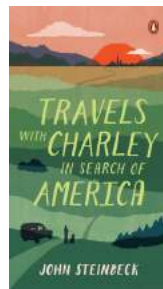
## Book Club

October 4, 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, 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.



On **Monday, November 1** we will discuss John Steinbeck's travelogue *Travels with Charley: In Search of America*, which was published in 1962.

## August Numbers

Giving: \$37,119  
(including online: \$14,440)

Expenses: \$31,397

YTD Giving vs. Expenses: \$14,545

### Other Statistics

Date	Attendance	Views	Viewers
8/1	86	83	38
8/8	61	59	36
8/15	68	95	50
8/22	75	73	56
8/29	64	47	31



# Youth and Family Ministry

## REGISTER NOW for October 10 start!!!!

### for Sunday School, Confirmation, and High School Hangout

All students ages 3-12th grade are invited to register and participate in education activities this fall. Students must be registered through the church to participate in activities. This is vital for both emergency contact information and planning purposes. [Registration link](#) is the same for everyone. Please register by Oct. 1!

### Sunday School

Beginning October 10, 9 am

Sunday School is kicking off on Sunday, October 10 with a new format and schedule. All children ages 3 years old – 5th grade are invited to gather in-person for music, stories and activities as we learn about the Bible and our faith together. We will meet wherever worship takes place, either outside at 536 Cornell or inside the sanctuary. Parents, please stay for the fun. Children under 3 welcome to attend with a parent.



### Confirmation and High School Hangout (formerly High School Sunday School)

Beginning October 10, 9 am

Both gatherings will meet in-person inside the 536 S. Cornell house until space is available in the church building, please enter through the side door facing the driveway.

Masks will be required for the indoor class times. Stay tuned to email, Facebook and Remind for updates on where we will be meeting.

### Logos is back!

Mondays, 7 pm

Logos has returned! We continue to meet in-person at the Starbucks on Roosevelt Rd (near Sonic) on Mondays from 7:00-8:30 pm. This is for 9-12 graders and friends are welcome.

### Community Outing to the Apple Orchard October 23

The Youth Commission invites the St. Paul community to a day at the apple orchard. We will be heading to Jonamac Orchards in Malta, IL (near Dekalb) on Saturday October 23. You can come whenever you like but we will gather by the picnic tables at 11:30 am for a group picture. Water, treats and a scavenger hunt will also be available in that area beginning at 10:30 am.

To limit crowds a ticket (\$6) is required for everyone over the age of 2 and can be purchased online on the [Jonamac website](#) to reserve your spot. Each family is responsible for purchasing their own tickets. Included are daytime corn maze, jumping pillow, animal barn petting zoo, Cider House tasting room, barnyard play area and wagon rides. ½ peck bags for U-Pick apples are an additional \$15. Come join us for a day of family fun and fellowship!



*Back-to-School Blessing and ice cream!*



# Prayers

## Fall 2021 Prayer Vigil

October 29, 7 am—7 pm

“And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord’s people.” – Ephesians 6:18

Please join us in this virtual experience—our livestream prayer vigil. The stream will become live at 7am and will continue until 7pm. Join any time and stay as long as you like. The link to the stream and the online guide will be available on our website on the [Prayer Ministries page](#). Help us fill these 12 hours with prayer.

This is a wonderful opportunity to spend some time praying in silence, enjoying that special connection with our God. And you are invited!

Prayer requests for family, friends, or other concerns are welcome and encouraged. Online request cards are available on the [Prayer Ministries page](#) or at our in-person worship services—please fill out a card and return it to the office so we can include your request during the vigil. Prayer requests will appear on the screen during the stream.

Thank you for being a part of this special gift of prayer to our congregation, community, and the world.

## Welcome, New Members!

We rejoice at these newest members of St. Paul, received on September 12. Welcome to St. Paul!



Rick & Jan Anderson



Lauren Dobry  
Adeline and Connor



Emily & Mark Moulis  
Grace and Isaac



Leila & Nam Nguyen  
Levi

### Not pictured:

- Patti Clower
- Michael Eppley
- Mary Hels-Jager & Mike Jager
- Sarah and Derrick
- Ian Macleod
- Alec and Connor



Mary & Alan  
Samantha and Jackson



Emily & Jeff Whittis  
William, Max, and Theodore

## 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](mailto:prayers@stpaulvp.org), or contact the church office.

### Prayers of Healing

Wayne Simpson (father-in-law of Sarah Simpson), 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: Pat Thomas (aunt of Alice Ramsay), Lus Delgadillo (father of Izzy Delgadillo), Rich Durkovic (friend of Karen & Patrick Egan), Veronika Brandt, Marc Ernst (nephew of Hank & Debbie DeParis)

# October 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	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
8:30A <i>Worship</i> 9:30A <i>Animal Blessing</i> 10:00A <i>Worship</i> 10:45A <i>Wired Word</i> 12:30P <i>CROP Walk</i> 2:00P <i>Hands &amp; Feet</i>	6:45P <i>Book Club</i> 7:00P <i>Logos</i>	10:00A <i>Staff Mtg</i> 7:00P <i>WWW</i>	9:30A <i>Bible Study</i> 10:30A <i>Communion</i> 7:00P <i>Choir</i>			9:00A <i>Playgroup</i>
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
8:00A <i>Worship</i> 9:00A <i>Education</i> 10:00A <i>Worship</i> 10:45A <i>Wired Word</i>	6:30P <i>Finance</i> 7:00P <i>Logos</i> 7:30 <i>Exec Council</i>	10:00A <i>Staff Mtg</i> 3:00P <i>Rachel Cir</i> 7:00P <i>WMA</i>	9:30A <i>Bible Study</i> 10:30A <i>Communion</i> 7:00P <i>Choir</i>	7:00P <i>Welcome</i> 7:00P <i>Youth Com</i>		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
8:00A <i>Worship</i> 9:00A <i>Education</i> 10:00A <i>Worship</i> 10:45A <i>Wired Word</i> 11:00A <i>1st Comm Class</i>	6:30P <i>DayCare Bd</i> 7:00P <i>Logos</i>	10:00A <i>Staff Mtg</i> 7:00P <i>Council</i>	LIVING WATERS DEADLINE  9:30A <i>Bible Study</i> 10:30A <i>Communion</i> 7:00P <i>Choir</i>			9:00A <i>Playgroup</i> 11:30A <i>Apple Orchard Outing</i>
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
8:00A <i>Worship</i> 9:00A <i>Education</i> 10:00A <i>Worship</i> 10:45A <i>Wired Word</i> 11:00A <i>1st Comm Class</i>	7:00P <i>Logos</i>	10:00A <i>Staff Mtg</i>	9:30A <i>Bible Study</i> 10:30A <i>Communion</i> 7:00P <i>Choir</i>		7:00A <i>Prayer Vigil</i>	
31 REFORMATION						
8:00A <i>Worship</i> 9:00A <i>Education</i> 10:00A <i>Worship</i> 10:45A <i>Wired Word</i>						



# Community and World



## Day Care and Kindergarten News

The children have been getting to know each other as the school year gets underway. They are learning about friendship and feelings. It's also been great for them to have Pastor Zak resume chapel time on Thursdays. Picture Day on Friday, Sept. 24 was a fun event!

After much prayerful consideration, the Outreach Board made the decision to close the Kindergarten classroom several weeks ago due to staffing and low enrollment. We give thanks for the decades that we were able to provide a nurturing and educational experience in a Christian setting for so many children in the area and for all the prayers and support from the St. Paul community.



## WE'RE HIRING AT DAY CARE!

For many months we've advertised extensively for Pre-School/Pre-K lead teachers that are director qualified. Possibly someone here at St. Paul knows an interested early childhood specialist! We offer insurance, paid holidays, tuition reimbursement, sick leave, free tuition for a staff member's preschool child, and a sign-on bonus.

We are also looking to develop a list of substitutes in case our full-time assistant teacher is unavailable. The only requirements are a love of working with children, a high school diploma, a physical and a background check. It is a paid position and could be full or half days.

Please contact our director, Sarah Simpson, at 630.832.0420, or Karen Egan at 630.730.1413. We have another wonderful group of little learners this year and it's a joy to work with them!



## Update from our ELCA Missionaries

### Dr. Steve and Bethany Friberg

It didn't take long to settle back into our community and work here in Tanzania. Our six months in Minnesota were refreshing and we relished being near our children. We are relieved that Steve is done with his cancer treatment. Our work permit was granted and we are excited about the year ahead. It is a privilege to be working as the medical coordinator of ten small health centers of the Evangelical Lutheran

Church in Tanzania. We are trying to encourage Tanzanian doctors and nurses working in tough locations with improved technology, medical scholarships, and clinic renovations. This important work is only possible with your ongoing partnership. In God's Kingdom small efforts and resources are blessed and multiplied beyond what we would expect. Thank you for accompanying us from afar. Your prayers and support sustain us.





545 S. Ardmore Ave. Villa Park, IL 60181  
630-832-5580 | [www.stpaulvp.org](http://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](mailto:office@stpaulvp.org)

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

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

