

Living Waters

June 2022

God's Immanent Presence

Pastor Zak

"See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes." -Revelation 21:3-4

This text has come to play a central role in my faith formation in recent years. Believe it or not, this month marks my five-year anniversary at St. Paul. Over the past years I have been blessed to witness how it is that God dwells with the people of God at St. Paul. I have found such great joy in this community and its people, which have openly embraced me and my family from the very beginning. There have been plenty of tear-filled moments, as well. I have stopped counting, but suffice it to say that our congregation has laid to rest many saints over the past years. Some of these individuals I knew better than others, but each death provided an opportunity to walk with families and hear their stories as we mourned together. Each time we gathered for this purpose I couldn't help but pray that God would stoop down to wipe the tears from our eyes, an act of divine care and intimacy.

The people of God at St. Paul reflect to me that immanent presence of God in times of joy and celebration as well. I have been here long enough to celebrate weddings and subsequent baptisms of children born to these

young families. I've had the joy of family retreats to Lutherdale and youth trips to, well, all over the place. I've sat through more meetings than I would like to count and now have a vast knowledge of construction management I never knew I needed. The greatest joy perhaps is our shared mission to live in God's love and invite others to share in that love too. As we continue to grow and mature in that love, I am thankful for the manner in which you welcome me in God's love each and every day as we live out our call together. I look forward to more blessings in the years ahead.



**Living
IN GOD'S**

Love



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Worship Information

In-Person

Sundays

Worship in the sanctuary at 8 & 10 am. We'll be outside on the last Sunday of the month over the summer!

Online/Livestream

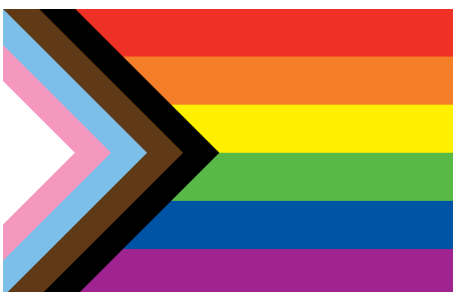
Watch the first service live on [YouTube](#), or anytime after that!

Altar Flowers Sign-Up

Sign up now using our [digital sign-up!](#) Two bouquet slots available for each Sunday; each bouquet is \$30.

Congregational Life...

Worship Updates



As we head into the summer months, we will continue to worship every Sunday at 8 & 10 am. June is Pride Month, which we are “proud” to celebrate as a [Reconciling in Christ community](#). Please join us for worship as we gather to celebrate the gift of God’s love for us and the diversity of love we experience together in community. On the last Sundays of the month June-August (June 26, July 31 & August 28) we will worship together outside in our back lot (weather permitting). Be sure to bring a chair and a friend to join us as we celebrate God’s goodness in the midst of God’s “good” creation!

Celebrate the 4th by joining the parade!

July 4, 8:30 am

Ready to celebrate, be neighborly, and restock the food pantry at the same time? Join St. Paul members in the Villa Park VFW July 4th parade. We will resume our long-time tradition of pushing shopping carts to collect food for the local food pantry. (Summer is usually a challenging time for food pantries and donations drop off while need is greater, as children are not getting lunches at school.) Meet in the Trinity Lutheran Church parking lot between 8:30-9 am to decorate carts before the parade steps off at 10 am.



Contact [Amy Ishida](#) for more information or to let her know she will not be pushing carts alone! We need to know how many people will be walking prior to obtaining shopping carts.

While our primary goal is to collect food, we also need A LOT of candy to give away! Please drop off candy donations in the Foyer or contact Emy.

ProJECT Forward Update

Work in the North Wing is taking shape as the truss repair has been completed and rooms begin to be framed. It’s loud and busy, but soon enough we’ll be able to enjoy fellowship in the new Cafe space, meet and learn together in our conference rooms, play in our new Totspot and so much more! Outside the new parking lot has been surfaced and ground has been broken on the outdoor play space for the Day Care. Work at the parsonage continues to move along quickly as the Wagners are beginning to pack and make preparations to move back in later this summer.

Please note that the church building will be completely closed due to construction activity June 9-11.

This all goes to say that there’s a lot going on and even more to celebrate. Be on the lookout for more information regarding activities to celebrate all that we’ve accomplished together as we look ahead to serving our community moving forward. Keep checking updates on the construction blog [here!](#)



...and More!

Beer & Hymns

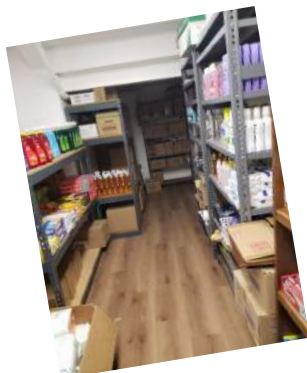
June 24, 7 pm, First Church of Lombard

The next Beer & Hymns will be more appropriately titled "ROOT beer & hymns"! We will join our partners from First Church of Lombard (220 S. Main Street) in one of their outdoor spaces. The good news: fresh air, lots of room, less risk of COVID exposure. Possibly not as good: electronic piano, and right across the street from a very tempting Dairy Queen. Bring your own hymnal if you have it, plus a chair, and snacks/drinks if you wish (please, nothing alcoholic). Join us for an hour of singing, weather permitting. We start at 7 pm.

Hands & Feet

June 5, 2-4 pm

We were very excited to serve our clients from our new space on May 1! It was good to see so many familiar faces and they were happy to see the shoes! We served 21 families in May and we anticipate returning to our more normal numbers of 60-80 families as the word spreads that we have reopened. We can again accept donations of product and shoes. If you have a donation, please contact [Judy](#) for drop-off arrangements.



April Numbers

Giving: \$38,348
(including online: \$20,175)

Expenses: \$45,286

YTD Giving vs. Expenses: \$1,763

Other Statistics

Date	Attendance	Viewers
4/3	105	58
4/10	134	59
4/14	47	71
4/15	86	81
4/17	297	100
4/24	127	33



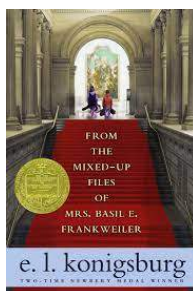
Book Club

June 6, 6:45 pm, Ruggard Gazebo

Book club will meet outdoors at the Ruggard Gazebo on the Prairie Path near Ardmore and Park Avenue over the summer. Bring your own chair and drink; newcomers always welcome!



On **Monday, June 6** we will discuss *Lady Clementine* by Marie Benedict, which is historical fiction about Winston Churchill's wife.



On **Monday, July 11** we will discuss *From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler* by E. L. Konigsburg, a Newbury award winning YA novel about a sister and brother who run away from home and camp out at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Youth and Family Ministry

Youth Lunch & Mini Golf

June 12, 11 am

Youth in grades 6-12 will meet for a light lunch immediately following 10 am worship and then we will head to Holes and Knolls in Glen Ellyn for a round of mini golf. Lunch will be provided and the cost of golf is \$7. Let [Judy](#) know if you are interested by June 10.



Vacation Bible School

June 13-16, 5-7 pm

Register by Monday, June 6 to embark on this exciting quest for God's great light on Adventure Island!

We have room for more participants and volunteers. [REGISTER HERE!](#)

We also need donations for food, as a full dinner is served each night. Please check out the list of needed items [here!](#) Food donations must be received by Friday, June 10.

Have you heard?
There's still room!



Sunday School, Spring 2022



Prayers

A Message from the Metropolitan Chicago Synod

Kyrie eleison.

As our nation mourns with the loved ones of the 19 students and 2 teachers killed in the recent shooting at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas, we also mourn not long after mass shootings in Buffalo, New York; Laguna Woods, California; and Houston, Texas. With our global siblings, we also lament the violence of war as it continues to unfold in Ukraine -- and so many other places of conflict around the world.

Lord, have mercy.

Let us pray.

God, our healer and refuge,
we pray for all who suffer from any kind of violence.
With your mercy, bind up their wounds,
restore their bodies, and heal their hearts.
We commend the slain to your wounded hands,
and their loved ones to your merciful heart.
Comfort the mourners and embrace the lonely.
With your might, empower us to change this broken world.
Make us advocates for a stable society,
alive with hope in you.
We ask this through the one once wounded
for our transgressions
and now standing with us
in our sorrows,
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

(Prayer adapted from *All Creation Sings*, p. 49)

Thank You From Vivian Quam

Many thanks for all the wonderful cards and gestures of kindness following the death of my mother. It is such a joy to be a part of this caring community of faith.



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

Heather Hunter (niece of Cindy Johnson), John Waters (cousin of John Freidheim), Don Shallcross, Melinda Brent, Margaret Golden, Arlene Jensen, Nan Marcum, Brian Peterson (brother of Donna Windmoeller), Sandy Robershaw, Tommy Shallcross, Jim Sherlock (brother of Diane Sherlock), Steve Swanson, All Caregivers

Prayers for the Bereaved

Sophie Braasch (friends of Carol Simberg), Steve Madsen (nephew of Karen Egan)

June 2022

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 6:00P Handbells 7:00P Choir	2	3	4
5 PENTECOST 8:00A Worship 9:00A Wired Word 10:00A Worship & Confirmation 2:00P Hands & Feet	6 10:00A Pray & Sq 6:45P Book Club	7 10:00A Staff Mtg 3:00P Rachel Cir	8 9:30A Bible Study 6:00P VBS All Volunteers Mtg	9 CHURCH BLDG CLOSED	10 CHURCH BLDG CLOSED	11 CHURCH BLDG CLOSED
12 8:00A Worship 9:00A Wired Word 9:00A Youth Trip Mtg 10:00A Worship 11:00A Youth Lunch	13 5:00P VBS	14 10:00A Staff Mtg 5:00P VBS	15 9:30A Bible Study 5:00P VBS	16 5:00P VBS	17	18
19 8:00A Worship 9:00A Wired Word 10:00A Worship	20 LIVING WATERS DEADLINE 6:30P DayCare Bd 6:30P Finance 7:30P Exec Comm	21 1:00P Staff Mtg	22 9:30A Bible Study	23	24 7:00P Beer & Hymns	25
26 8:00A Outdoor Worship 9:00A Wired Word 10:00A Outdoor Worship	27	28 10:00A Staff Mtg 7:00P Council	29 9:30A Bible Study	30		

Community and World



Day Care News

May was a busy month with lots of fun themes and activities! The children enjoyed learning all about plants and insects, including a honey bee presentation. Of course, Mother's Day was part of their month and they lovely made gifts for their moms. Fairy Tales were shared as May ended. Plans are moving ahead for our new outdoor play space! Take a minute to look at the design displayed in the church foyer. A special thank you to Warren Carling who repaired some special signs that we will use for that new area and to Patrick Egan who installed a portable air conditioner for the classroom.



Race Amity Day: Potluck Picnic

June 12, 6-8:30 pm, First Church of Lombard

Join our friends from First Church of Lombard (220 S. Main St.) for an evening of planned activities and fellowship! This event is sponsored by *ComeUnity*, Pizza and Social Justice, and Illinois Citizens for Race Amity. Enter the parking lot from Ash Street.

Grills, hamburgers, hot dogs, and plant-based burgers will be provided. Please bring salads, side dishes, desserts, and drinks!

Please email your RSVP (and to ask questions) to ComeUnity.SocialJustice@gmail.com.



Seeking New Executive Director: Love INC

Love In the Name of Christ (Love INC) is a Christian ministry that has been helping churches help people in DuPage County for the past 36 years. This ecumenical ministry is seeking a part-time Executive Director to lead the organization. Please contact barbLoveinthenameofChrist@gmail.com for details. Full job description available [here](#).



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: Marti Seaton
Vice President: Gay Nass
Treasurer: Tom Pfenning
Secretary: Chris Bard
Financial Secretary: Cathy Caron
Caring Commissioners: Laura Albert
Congregation and Community Commissioner: Emy Ishida
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
Worship & Technology Assistants:
Fiona Kordyban and Andrew Speidel
Social Media Coordinator: Katie Briseno

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!

