

St. Paul Lutheran Church ELCA

1701 Sixteenth Avenue
Sterling, Illinois 61081-1543
Phone (815) 625-3069

Email: stpaulsterling@comcast.net
Website: www.stpaulsterling.com

JULY 2022

"Your way, O God, is holy. What god is so great as our God? You are the God who works wonders; you have displayed your might among the peoples. With your strong arm you redeemed your people, the descendants of Jacob and Joseph." Psalm 77: 13-15



It's Vacation Bible School time! I am so excited for CommUNITY VBS this year. Our theme is Under the Big Top: A Circus of God's Wonders. In the tall circus tent, we will explore how God creates wonders through storytelling, games, music, and so much more! Join us July 10 from 1:30-4pm with a closing worship and cookout to follow. Everyone is invited to join in the fun whether you are a child participant, teenage helper, or adult volunteer. Information on how to register can be found in the newsletter.

We will also have a special CommUNITY worship at the Grandon Civic Center July 17 at 9am. We will be praising God together as a CommUNITY! (This worship will be the Sunday morning worship opportunity for St. Paul.) Not only will we sing VBS songs, we will also praise God for all of God's work through our hands completed through our UNITE Service Camp this past June. One of God's wonders is that God is always redeeming us and rejuvenating us with new life. The five houses that we painted in our community through UNITE Camp provided the homeowners with a fresh start and revitalized their neighborhood. It is a symbol of God's wondrous redeeming work.

During the month of July, I invite you seek out God's wonders. Join us in exploring God's wonders through these CommUNITY opportunities and look for God's creative and redemptive work right in your own backyard.

In awe of all that God can do,
Pastor Makayla



This past month we have prayed for the following: Lillian Strike, John Ukena, Florence Pfundstein, Doc Adelman, Dave Lockhart, John Ukena, Berta Beyer, MacKenzie Gorman, Marcia Fields and the family and friends of Bev Zigler.

Please contact Sue in the church office if you have a prayer request for the congregational prayer list.

Join us For Worship

10:00 a.m. worship and praise God.

Tri-Church Online Worship Services

Worship will be available at 9am on Sunday and any time after that:

<http://stpaulsterling.com/> & <https://stpaulsterling.us18.list-manage.com/track/click?u=f94d986cbc4c67a176723cace&id=eff197e4e9&e=2acc769427>

You can call the toll-free number 1-888-975-5536 and listen anytime.

Church Announcements



JULY FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

Monetary donations can be sent to the church. Money can be designated for either Trinity Food Pantry, FISH Pantry or to the Sauk Valley Food Bank.

CLEO (Church Ladies Eating Out)

The July date will be Monday, July 25 at 6:00 p.m. Watch the bulletin announcements to find out where to meet. We are really looking forward to seeing you! If you need more information, you can contact Libby Schrader: 815-626-0764.



St. Paul Year Budget Report

2022 Budget \$257,790 (\$21,483 Monthly)

Totals through June 28, 2022

Budgeted Expenses \$128,898

Offerings/Interest \$ 94,522

Expenses \$109,471



How about a night of baseball? Come out this summer and cheer on our CommUNITY church slow pitch softball team, THE HOLY COWS! They play once a week at Centennial Park in Rock Falls. Times and the day of the week vary. Check the calendar to see what day and time they play this week! The more the merrier.

“**This summer**, some of the **UNITE** churches (including St. Paul!) are hosting student musicians from the Sterling/Rock Falls area. This includes any student completing 8th grade – a just graduated college student. Students are asked to share a piece with their home congregation and then arrange to play that piece at other **UNITE** congregations, where they will be paid \$25/service as a guest musician. This is a chance to keep music skills tip top over the summer, or share an IMEA or audition piece they may be working on, or another special piece. Please contact *Dawn Zeigler* @ 815.275.3775 or dawn@stpaulsterling.com for all of the details! We can’t wait to hear the music!



Men's Fellowship

Men's Group will meet on Monday, July 11th at 6:00 p.m. for meal and fellowship at the home of Larry & Vicki Cooper, 1101 E. 35th Street, Sterling. Bob Sondgeroth will speak for a couple minutes about a topic that has impacted every one of our families at one time or another, Alzheimer's Disease. Please plan to attend and you are welcome to bring a friend (but please RSVP). Text or call Larry @ 815-499-8438. The meal will be provided. This opportunity is open to all men of Immanuel, St. Paul and St. John's. A hearty welcome and invitation is extended!

2022 Synod Assembly Highlights

Many thanks to St. Paul's Synod Assembly delegates – Greg & Dawn Zeigler and Pastor Makayla.

The 2022 Northern Illinois Synod Assembly was held via Zoom on two Sunday evenings, June 5 and June 12, and then in person at Augustana College, Friday, June 17 and Saturday, June 18 under the theme, “For the Sake of the World” from our synod's mission statement, Walking Together, loving Christ, loving all, for the sake of the world.

Pastor Makayla led the opening prayer of Friday night. The election of a new bishop was a high point of this year's assembly. The Rev. Stacie Fidlar was elected on the 5th ballot and will begin her 6-year term on September 1, 2022. Three-hundred-thirty-eight voting members participated in the assembly through the Zoom platform, 359 voting members attended the in-person portion of the assembly and countless visitors watched the live stream on the synod website.

We centered our assembly in worship together. We heard reports from our officers, and learned about our synod committees, agencies, and institutions as well as our role in churchwide ministries. We engaged in elections, and adopted the FY 2023 budget and salary guidelines. We considered four resolutions all of which were passed. You can read about them at www.nisyond.org. We celebrated retirements, special anniversaries of rostered ministers and congregations and remembered those who have since our last assembly. We are church together!



Northern Illinois Synod

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



Lutheran World Relief
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. LASTING PROMISE.

Our next quilting day will be Wednesday, July 20, 202. We will meet from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. No sewing experience is necessary.

We welcome donations of clean, spot free fabrics such as quilting fabric, blankets, sheets and mattress pads that we may reuse within our quilts.

If you have questions contact Lucille Dole, 847-385-1862 or Debbie O'Brien, 815-441-0257.



Lutheran World Relief School Kits

Through the month of **JULY** we will again gather School kits supplies for children all over the world. All you need to do is take a backpack home, fill it with the items on the list and return it. The empty bags are located at the back of the sanctuary. You may also shop and drop off the supplies at church too. For those who would like to give a monetary gift please put your donation in an offering envelope marked LWR school kits. Questions contact Debbie O'Brien (815-441-0257) or call the church office.

LWR School Supplies Shopping List

(All items need to be new)

4- 70 sheet notebooks of wide-or-college-ruled paper. **NO** loose leaf paper.

1-30 centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other. **Hard rulers only please**

1-Pencil sharpener

1-Eraser (2 1/2inches)

1-BLUNT pair of scissors

5-UNSHARPENED #2 Pencils with erasers

5-Black or Blue ballpoint pens (No ink gel)

1-Box of 16 or 24 count crayons



Scripture Readings for Worship at Home

(These devotional readings may not exactly match the readings at in-person or online worship)

July 2022	First reading	Psalm	Second reading	Gospel
Fourth Sunday after Pentecost July 3, 2022	<u>2 Kings 5:1-14</u> <u>Psalm 30</u>	<u>Isaiah 66:10-14</u> <u>Psalm 66:1-9</u>	<u>Galatians 6:(1-6), 7-16</u>	<u>Luke 10:1-11, 16-20</u>
Fifth Sunday after Pentecost July 10, 2022	<u>Amos 7:7-17</u> <u>Psalm 82</u>	<u>Deuteronomy 30:9-14</u> <u>Psalm 25:1-10</u>	<u>Colossians 1:1-14</u>	<u>Luke 10:25-37</u>
Sixth Sunday after Pentecost July 17, 2022	<u>Amos 8:1-12</u> <u>Psalm 52</u>	<u>Genesis 18:1-10a</u> <u>Psalm 15</u>	<u>Colossians 1:15-28</u>	<u>Luke 10:38-42</u>
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost July 24, 2022	<u>Hosea 1:2-10</u> <u>Psalm 85</u>	<u>Genesis 18:20-32</u> <u>Psalm 138</u>	<u>Colossians 2:6-15, (16-19)</u>	<u>Luke 11:1-13</u>
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost July 31, 2022	<u>Hosea 11:1-11</u> <u>Psalm 107:1-9, 43</u>	<u>Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23</u> <u>Psalm 49:1-12</u>	<u>Colossians 3:1-11</u>	<u>Luke 12:13-21</u>



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES FOR OUR CHURCH MEMBERS

If you don't see your name on this list or there is a correction to be made, please let Sue know in the church office

1	Christy Lincoln	<u>Happy 12th Anniversary</u>
6	Max Brockman	July 10, 2010
7	Gladys Stern – 101	Dan & Susan Bartel
	Shannon Kramer	<u>Happy 7th Anniversary</u>
12	Sandy Julifs	July 11, 2015
13	Jeff Ivarson	Tim & Chrissy Zollinger
14	Lillyanna Reyes	<u>Happy 10th Anniversary</u>
15	Jennifer Pillars	July 14, 2012
19	Daniel Straw	Tim & Shannon Kramer
20	Lee Eilers	<u>Happy 28th Anniversary</u>
26	Cliff Miller – 96	July 16, 1994
	Logan Pillars	Jeff & Kjersten Ivarson
31	Sandra Sweitzer	<u>Happy 31st Anniversary</u>

JULY



Happy 18th Anniversary

July 3, 2004

Adrian & Stacey Avelar

Happy 65th Anniversary

July 7, 1957

Dale & Sharon Worley

Happy 31st Anniversary

July 18, 1991

Doug & JoEllen Vandersee

Happy 53rd Anniversary

July 19, 1969

Ruben & JoAnn Garcia

Happy 4th Anniversary

July 21, 2018

Pr. Makayla & Jacob Dahleen

Happy 61st Anniversary

July 22, 1961

Harold & Sandy Julifs

Happy 30th Anniversary

July 24, 1992

Jeff & Dawn Waite

Happy 8th Anniversary

July 24, 2014

JJ & Lana Shore

Stewardship – Use Your Money to Get People into Heaven

The best use of your money is using it to get people into heaven.

Luke 16:9 is a problem verse that most people don't understand.

Jesus says, *“Use your worldly resources to benefit others and make friends. Then, when your possessions are gone, they will welcome you to an eternal home”*



Jesus is saying that, just like the shrewd manager who made friends he could count on later, you need to use some of your money to make eternal friends that you will have forever in heaven and who will welcome you when you get there.

He's not saying you can buy your way into heaven, because you can't. Jesus has already paid the price on the cross. He's not saying you can purchase your salvation, because you can't. Salvation is a free gift by grace.

Jesus is telling you to use your money to build friendships that are going to go on and on for eternity. When you use your money to help other people meet Jesus, you make friends for eternity and you gain rewards for eternity.

One day you're going to die. Imagine that when you get to heaven, there are a hundred people standing at the entrance, clapping and cheering and saying, “We've been waiting for you! We're your friends for life – no, eternity, because we're in debt to you. If it weren't for the way you used your money, we wouldn't have heard how to get to heaven.”

Are you using any of your money for that kind of thing? Is anybody going to be in heaven because of you? Because of the way you used your money?

When you buy a Bible and give it to somebody who doesn't have one, you've stored up treasure in Heaven. When you support a program that shares the Good News around the world you have stored up treasure in heaven. When you help build a church, help paint houses in the community you have stored up treasure in heaven. That is the highest and best use of your money.

You can't take it with you, but you can send it on ahead by investing in people who are going to heaven!

Give generously with a grateful heart!



**Remember
Your Pledge
This Summer**

BRANCHES



Youth and Family Ministries of St. John's and St. Paul Lutheran Church

CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILY

HIGHLIGHTS

EVENTS, ACTIVITIES & FAITH FORMATION

THANKS BE TO GOD FOR UNITE PARTICIPANTS:

Thank you to all the 2022 UNITE participants. Last month 40 teenagers and many adult leaders came together to worship, play together and serve in our communities by painting 5 homes in Sterling and Rock Falls. Thank you to who participated and supported Sauk Valley Unite! Please check out the UNITE Facebook page for highlights from this year's camp:



reNEW – “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!” (2 Cor 5:17, NIV)

<https://www.facebook.com/saukvalleyUNITE>



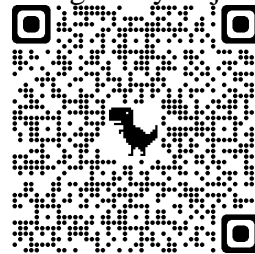
FAITH FORMATION 2021-22:

TRI CHURCH HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER TRIP JULY 24 – 26 CANCELLED! Our COURAGEOUS Tri Church Trip for 7th-12th Graders has been cancelled due to schedule conflicts for many prospective participants. Please check with Pastor Jacob about a possible plan B event that may happen this summer. Thank you for supporting our young people!





CommUNITY VBS: It is time to register for VBS - Under the Big Top: A Circus of God's Wonders! This year, VBS will be a one day outside event at Bethel Reformed Church on Sunday, July 10th. Check-In/Registration will begin at 1:30 with the VBS program from 2-4. We invite all parents to come at 4:00 to see the closing program and then stay and eat dinner with us outside. The menu will be: hotdogs, chips, fruit, cookies, lemonade/water. VBS is for children ages 4 yrs. - 5th grade. When registering, please put down the grade you just finished. We also **need volunteers** to help be crew leaders, help at a main station, water station, bathroom host, dinner host, traffic director,



set-up, tear-down, etc. There are many opportunities to serve. Please scan the QR code with your phone or visit our Facebook page to register a child or as an adult volunteer. If there is inclement weather, VBS

will be cancelled and not rescheduled. There is also a VBS Worship Service on July 17, at 9:00 @ Grandon Civic Center. Please join the fun!



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

Youth Ministry

Synod Worship Day
with Bishop Jeff Clements

Sunday, July 24, 3-6P.M.
Zion Lutheran Church/Patriot's Gateway
925 5th Ave, Rockford

Worship! Games! Food! Fun!

Northern IL Synod Youth Day

7th-12 Graders: You are most welcome to join in Northern Illinois Synod Youth Day on Sunday July 24 in Rockford! On July 24 we will leave from St. Paul at 11:30 a.m. and head to lunch as we make our way to Rockford. The people who sign up for this experience will help determine additional festivities of the day! We will be back to Church around 7:30 p.m. If you would like to participate in this special outing please let Pastor know by July 10.

JULY CHILDREN'S OFFERING: The July Children's offering will go to towards the purchase of supplies needed for LWR School Kits. Families are also invited to shop for the needed supplies or contribute monetary donations to be used to purchase the items. Grab an empty bag from the coat rack at the back of the sanctuary to take with you. The list of items is attached to the bags.



Community Announcements



Mark your calendars and make plans to attend a **Benefit** in Support of Bob Buck Jr.'s medical expenses on Saturday, August 6, from 12:30-8:00 p.m. at Parties on Pope (207 Pope St., Nelson). Many silent auction items will be available with the winners announcement at 6:30 p.m. There will also be Phresh Kutz Haircuts, a Corn Hole (bags) Tournament, 50/50 Raffles, an Axe Throwing Contest, Basketball Hot Shots Contest, and Food (pulled pork sandwiches) available!

Bob was a member of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Rock Falls and was an engineer for the Wahl Clipper family for 33 years. He married his wife Christy Buck on May 11, 2007. He was a wonderful father to 4 children (Kelsey, Molly, Natalie and Jacob) and an excited grandpa to 4 grandchildren (soon to be 5). Bob was a family man who loved to golf, play basketball, and coach his children in sports. He was always joking and making people laugh/smile no matter the situation. He was a very patient and calm person, and always left an impact on anyone he met. On November 19, 2021, Bob and his family's world were turned upside down when he was diagnosed with stage 4 metastatic pancreatic cancer. After 3 rounds of aggressive chemo, things once again turned upside down. Bob passed away peacefully at home, surrounded by family and listening to music on February 1, 2022. He was a light in this dark world and is missed beyond measure. **This benefit will help defray medical care Bob received before his death.**

If you would like to make a donation (examples, gift basket, gift card, food to serve) or want to help work stations, please contact Kelsey Buck (779-250-0204) or Molly Buck (815-440-4706) by July 15.



Rock River Valley Self Help Enterprises

Over the last few years we have had tremendous outpouring of support from the community for our Santa's Secret Workshop. The event has a huge success and our individuals had a great time shopping for as well as giving the gifts. Most of the individuals love the fact that they are able to give gifts, especially to people they were unable to give gifts in the past.



Our individuals love on a very limited income and after their monthly expenses are subtracted from their income they seldom have enough to think about Christmas gifts. We are again asking for donations for our Santa's Secret Workshop. Below is a list of items we are looking for. A monetary donation can also be made for them to purchase items they might need, make checks payable to Self Help Enterprises. Thank you in advance for any help you can provide. Emily Garrick, QIDP.

Nail Polish	Posters	Sports Memorabilia	Board games
Coloring books	Paints	Manicure sets	Scented lotions
Movies (DVD's)	Small Took Kits	Toys	Perfume & Aftershave
Fishing equipment (please no poles)		Scented candles	Gift bags (larger sized)
Pet toys and treats	Camping equipment	Christmas collections	Small Gift baskets
Lip gloss	Small craft projects	Playing cards	Card games
Puzzle books	Markers	Puzzles (600 pc or less)	
Crayons	Pedicure sets	Body wash	Car Care Kits
Socks (for men and women)		Decorative mugs	Hats
Money	Flashlights and batteries		Microwave popcorn
Hot Chocolate	Movie Candy	Gloves and scarves	
Toothbrushes and toothpaste		Blanket throws	
Activity books (for adults and children)			

* Please check expiration dates on food items

* Please new or like new items

Please remember our Members & Friends on the Home Visitation List:

Ruth George – Apt. 124
Heritage Woods
2205 Oak Grove Avenue, Sterling, IL 61081

Katherine Janssen – Rm. B104
Resthave Nursing Home
408 Maple Avenue, Morrison, IL 61270

Viola Koster – Rm. 306
Windsor Manor
403 Scenic Street, Morrison, IL 61270

Cliff Miller
Moosehaven
1701 Park Drive, Orangepark, FL 32073

Florence Pfundstein
29020 Penrose Road, Sterling, IL 61081

Burt Severson
5147 Edgewood Circle, Mesa AZ 85206

Gladys Stern – Rm. 205A
Allure of Sterling
612 W. 23rd Street, Sterling, IL 61081



GIRL SCOUT

SUMMER FAMILY

FUN DAY

The logo for Girl Scouts of Northern Illinois (gsni) is a green trefoil shape with the lowercase letters "gsni" in white inside.

Are you ready to start your
Girl Scout adventure?

Time, Date, Location, etc.

Wednesday July 20th 2022

6pm—9pm

First Presbyterian—410 2nd Ave, Sterling, IL 61081

Girl Scout Families invited and you can invite a
friend who is interested in Girl Scouts

Pancakes | Games | STEM building kits | Water toys

Pajama Party

Movie Night

Sonic 1&2 combined runtime 3hrs 30mins you can leave at 9p or stay till the end,
bring a change of if you would like to get wet

1-844-476-4463
girlscoutsni.org/snapshot





"I'll come to VBS, but can you take the word 'school' out of it?"

TELEPHONE PRAYER SUPPORT GROUP

We welcome your prayer requests and also your praise reports:

(Want to be a part of this? Call the church office.)

Pastor Makayla (815) 780-9401

Janie Billings (815) 564-8628

Judy Bartel (815) 751-6768

Greg Zeigler (815) 632-3366

James 5:16 *Pray one for another.*

DIRECTORY OF STAFF and CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

Pastor Makayla Dahleen

(815) 780-9401 – pastormakayla@stpaulsterling.com

Sue Dirks, Parish Secretary

(815) 535-3574 – sue@stpaulsterling.com



2022 Congregation Council

President – Jim Gorman

Vice President – Andy Beswick

Treasurer – Chrissy Zollinger

Secretary – Jennifer Pillars

Christian Education/Youth

Andy Beswick ('23) 785-202-0636

Jennifer Pillars ('24) 716-0311

Stewardship

Bev Julien ('23) 716-8797

Jim Gorman ('23) 716-7043

Social Outreach

JJ Shore ('23) 590-2868

Bev Julien ('23) 716-8797

Lay Ministry & Worship

Jim Gorman ('23) 716-7043

JJ Shore ('23) 590-2868

Property & Management

Andy Beswick ('23) 785-202-0636

Dan Bartel ('24) 441-1574

Treasurer & Capitol Campaign

Chrissy Zollinger ('24) 262-903-0007

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH
1701 Sixteenth Ave.
STERLING, ILLINOIS 61081

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**– DATED MATERIAL –
PLEASE DO NOT HOLD**



LOVING – SERVING – SHARING

DIRECTORY OF STAFF

Office (815) 625-3069

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