

St. Paul Lutheran Church ELCA

1701 Sixteenth Avenue
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JULY 2024

For where two or three are gathered in my name, I'm there with them." Matthew 18:20

As we continue our Journey with Jesus discipleship program this summer I've been reflecting on how we are the body of Christ in the world. In this summer initiative we are keeping track of how we live as disciples through the St. Paul Purpose statement: Living Christ Centered lives so we may love all, serve our community, and share the word. We embody Christ's grace and love through how we love, serve, and share. We also encounter Christ in the hospitality we receive from a neighbor and the stranger. As disciples we are meant to physically embody our faith through connection to God and each other. Perhaps you can connect with God through using your breath and lungs to sing a favorite hymn. At other times you might see God face to face when you hang out with friends old and new. This summer I hope you get a chance to connect with loved ones by the backyard pool or on FaceTime as you are 1000 miles apart. Ask each other how you can pray for each other or what's God up to in your life? (And don't forget to mark it down in your little Journey with Jesus notebook and write it on the posters at church).



I also want to connect with you! Back during my first summer at St. Paul I finally got to start connecting with you in-person as we navigated the Covid-19 Pandemic. After having Simon and feeling the time constraints of being Pastor and Mom, I want to connect again too. I'll have sign-up sheets in the sanctuary where we can schedule some one-on-one time together. You can also call the office for a time slot. We can visit, walk, go for coffee, or take the

kids to the splash pad. I'd be delighted to spend time with you in whatever way you choose. I also hope you can be getting together with each other from our church family as well.

Let us embody Christ this July. Like we say at the end of every worship this summer:

"Go in Peace, you are the body of Christ. Thanks be to God!"

In Peace,
Pastor Makayla

Join us For Worship

9:00 a.m. worship to praise God.

The Livestream can be accessed by clicking [HERE](#)



This past month we have prayed for the following: Dan Dir, Lee Eilers, Patty Arians, JoAnn Garcia, Eric Brown, Michelle Klinger, Barb Lenn, Lori Dewey, Shirley Graftaas, Betty Steinke, Michael Harting, Bob Cornelsen, Larry Wahler, JoDell Cruz, Sandy & Harold Julifs, Lila Edeus, Berta Beyer, and the family and friends of Dorothy Carr.

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

Church Announcements

CLEO (Church Ladies Eating Out)

CLEO meet monthly at 5:30 p.m. at a designated restaurant. The June outing on Monday, July 29 at The Factory in Sterling. If you are unable to attend because of bad weather or personal reasons, please join us the next month. If you need a ride or have any questions, please contact Judy Bartel at 815-751-6768. All are welcome!



Menz Group will meet at St. John's Lutheran Church in Sterling on Monday, July 1, at 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday Evening Bible Study

July 10 – 5:30 p.m.

July 24 – 5:30 p.m.



Please keep our home visitation members and friends in your thoughts and prayers. If you would like the address for anyone listed here, please contact Sue in the church office.

Bob Cornelsen	Lori Dewey	Lila Edeus
Katherine Janssen	Harold & Sandy Julifs	
Viola Koster	Cliff Miller	Burt Severson
Sandra Sweitzer	Dale Worley	



St. Paul Year Budget Report

2024 Budget \$286,313 (\$23,859 Monthly)

Totals through June 24, 2022

Budgeted Expenses \$143,154

Offerings/Interest \$60,647

Expenses \$110,145



HYMN REQUESTS:

Thank you to all who have shared your favorite hymns! I have been incorporating them into our worship music – and hopefully you’ve been enjoying singing and hearing them! The hymn request folder remains on the usher’s stand; I will check periodically for your selections, or feel free to send your requests to me via email.

dawn@stpaulsterling.com



Lutheran World Relief

56 Personal Care Kits were assembled on quilting day. Thanks to all who donated for this cause. Thanks for the Thrivent monies to purchase the towels and thanks to those who worked to package them.

Our next quilting day will be Wednesday, July 17 from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Please join us!

We have completed 5 quilts in June, bringing a total of 85 so far.

We are always in need of clean, spot-free sheets and blankets to use within the quilts. Donations can be placed in the closet by the kitchen.

If you have questions regarding the quilting contact Dawn Waite (815-631-8142) 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 the 120 backpacks that have been sewn.

All you need to do is take a backpack home, fill it with the items on the list (which will be attached to the backpacks) and return it to the church. The empty bags will be 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 Sue the church office.

Thank you for your support. These will be shipped, along with the quilts and personal care kits in September.

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



ST. PAUL STUDENT MUSICIANS:

This summer, the **UNITE** churches are again hosting student musicians from the Sterling/Rock Falls area. This includes any student completing 7th grade – a just graduated college student. We ask that students share a piece with St. Paul and then arrange to play that piece at other **UNITE** congregations, where you will be paid \$25/service as a guest musician. This is a chance to keep your music skills tip top over the summer, share an IMEA or audition piece you 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 you!



Stewardship



Grace is when God gives us good things that we don't deserve.
Mercy is when He spares us from bad things we deserve.
Blessings are when He is generous with both.
Truly, we can never run out of reasons to thank Him.
God is good all the time.

*Dearest Lord, teach us to be generous:
Teach us to serve you as you deserve:
To give and not to count the cost.
Amen*

Give with a grateful heart for all he has done for us!



**Remember
Your Pledge
This Summer**



2024 SYNOD ASSEMBLY HIGHLIGHTS

"And being so fed, we will lean into the grace and grit of our vocation to Be the Body, to live into the called life"

ACTIONS TAKEN

- blessed a new synod banner
- heard from Rev. Miguel Gomez-Acosta, Senior Director for New Ministry Development and Evangelism at ELCA Churchwide
- passed the Fiscal Year 2026 Northern Illinois Synod Budget
- passed the 2025 Rostered Minister Compensation Guidelines
- passed three resolutions brought to the assembly
- elected several members to serve on Synod Council, committees, and 2025 Churchwide Assembly.
- heard from Bishop Fidler about a new development project.
- heard from Becoming, a new Synod Authorized Worshipping Community in Oswego



RESOLUTIONS

The following resolutions were passed by the assembly:

- **R-1: Celebrating and Supporting the 50th Anniversary of ELCA World Hunger**
- **R-2: Northern Illinois Synod to Consider Becoming Reconciling in Christ**
- **R-3: Reject Christian Nationalism**

ELECTIONS

Synod Council Offices

Treasurer, Ms. Nancy Lillevoid

Synod Council

Mr. Trace Gallagher, Ms. Leann Heimerdinger, Mr. Dave Kromphardt, Rev. Chris Lee, Rev. John Rothfusz

Congregational Life Committee

Ms. Carol Johnson, Mr. David Crippen

Global Missions Committee

Dr. Alan Esker, Rev. Makayla Dahleen, Rev. Jonathan Black

Ministry Support Committee

Ms. Julie Eshleman, Mr. Jason Gustafson, Rev. Matt Kamprath

Outreach Committee

Rev. Sarah Wilson, Rev. Dr. Eric Lemonholm

Social Ministry Committee

Mr. John Gustafson, Rev. Patrick Fish

2025 Churchwide Assembly Voting Members

Ms. Clara Solak, Mr. Luke Snyder, Ms. Paula Ebener, Mr. George Sanchez, Mr. Brandon Graves, Rev. Chad McKenna, Bishop Stacie Fidler, Ms. Minnette Willard, Mr. Mel Ehrler, Ms. Rita Gustafson, Rev. Jamie Gallagher, Rev. Julane Nease, Mr. Bill Wescott, Ms. Merianne Morris, Rev. Preston Fields, Deacon Shari Simon



BIRTHDAYS FOR OUR CHURCH MEMBERS & FRIENDS

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	Patty Arians	<u>Happy 14th Anniversary</u>
	Christy Lincoln	July 10, 2010
4	Bev Graunke	Dan & Susan Bartel
5	Robert Dillon	<u>Happy 9th Anniversary</u>
6	Max Brockman	July 11, 2015
7	Shannon Kramer	Tim & Chrissy Zollinger
8	Dawn Arians	<u>Happy 12th Anniversary</u>
12	Sandy Julifs	July 14, 2012
13	Jeff Ivarson	Tim & Shannon Kramer
14	Lillyanna Reyes	<u>Happy 30th Anniversary</u>
15	Jennifer Pillars	July 16, 1994
19	Daniel Straw	Jeff & Kjersten Ivarson
20	Lee Eilers	<u>Happy 55th Anniversary</u>
26	Cliff Miller – 98	July 19, 1969
	Logan Pillars	Ruben & JoAnn Garcia
27	Jim O'Brien	<u>Happy 6th Anniversary</u>
31	Sandra Sweitzer	July 21, 2018



Happy 20th Anniversary

July 3, 2004

Adrian & Stacey Avelar

Happy 67th Anniversary

July 7, 1957

Dale & Sharon Worley

Happy 6th Anniversary

July 21, 2018

Jacob & Makayla Dahleen

Happy 63rd Anniversary

July 22, 1961

Harold & Sandy Julifs

Happy 10th Anniversary

July 24, 2014

JJ & Lana Shore

Happy 32nd Anniversary

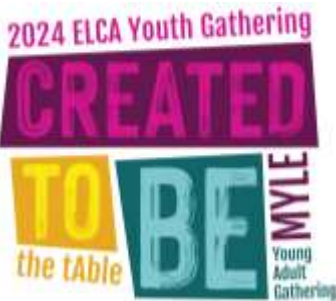
July 24, 1992

Jeff & Dawn Waite

Youth News!

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.



Support Tri-Church Youth in New Orleans for the ELCA National Youth Gathering Youth and Young Adults will be traveling to this life-changing event July 15-21. Pray for travel mercies and consider supporting the in-kind offering to help the people of New Orleans with storm relief. Youth and adults from St. John's and Immanuel will be attending this year!

Offering

As part of the Gathering, we lift up offerings in three distinct ways, In-kind offering, Saturday morning offering, and a special offering. Each of these offerings support unique missions and values of the ELCA and the Gathering.

In-Kind Offering

In the aftermath of a storm, hurricane, or tornado, New Orleans residents regularly find themselves without electricity. This quickly becomes a health crisis as people try to manage life in the hot, humid Gulf Coast summers. City leaders and community organizers identified the eight most-requested items to help residents as they wait for the power grid to be restored.

Our goal is to create 3,000 disaster relief kits filled with these items to help New Orleanians get through the days immediately following a natural disaster. It takes about \$100 to create an entire disaster relief kit. We encourage you to collect the items for your region or raise funds to complete an entire kit! Each region is asked to bring a different item to build our kits:

Region Five: Cooling towels

If you'd like to purchase items to be shipped directly to New Orleans, consider purchasing from the following Wish Lists.

[Amazon Wishlist](#)

[Target Wishlist](#) (currently out of stock)





JOIN US FOR

SPLASH DAY

JULY 21ST

STARTS AT 10:30
DIRECTLY AFTER SERVICE

FREE EVENT WITH SNACKS
AND DRINKS AVAILABLE

ACTIVITIES

SPRINKLERS, WATER
BALLOONS, CHALK,
PLAYGROUND, AND MORE!

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH
1701 16TH AVE, STERLING, IL 61081

Chalk the Walk

Saturday, July 13, 2024

11:00 am - 4:00 pm

Grandon Civic Center

Free Event

Participants receive assigned square & chalk

Entertainment

DJ & Bubble/Dance Party

Jeremy the Amazer

Face Painting

Splash Pad

Food Trucks

HELP US SELL

SLUSHYS!

Let Gabby know if
you and your family
can join the fun!





Celebrate and Support LOMC

“Connecting the Word of God with the World of God”

Tri Church (St. John’s and St. Paul, Sterling and Immanuel, Rock Falls) is hosting a special event for LOMC (Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Center) to celebrate and support their outdoor ministries.

We invite you to join us for this celebration on Saturday, August 17th from 5 to 7 pm at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Sterling, located at 1701 16th Avenue. A picnic style meal featuring ribeye steak sandwiches will be provided. In addition, outdoor games will be available.

We invite you to support LOMC as 2024 marks their 50th Anniversary! A 50th Anniversary Campaign appeal focused on “Generosity to the past and gifts for the future” is underway, “hoping to raise \$100,000 to honor and uplift God’s ministry of the outdoors at LOMC.”

We invite you to make a gift or pledge at this event. Staff and board members from LOMC will be available to share their joy for the camp and answer any questions.

To RSVP, please scan the QR code by August 5, 2024. Your RSVP is your “ticket” to this celebration. You may also RSVP on the sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall.

The Tri Church congregations are most grateful for your support of LOMC in funding the future!



Community Announcements



2024 YSJ Open Golf Outing – July 14th at Lost Nation Golf Course

Do you like to golf? Plan to golf and support St. Jude! All proceeds go to St. Jude Children's Hospital through Jessie's Mile. Last year with the help of big hearted sponsors, Jessie's Mile was able to give a record \$10,000 to St. Jude. There are 8 levels of sponsorship this year. Hole in one package - \$600. \$100 donation to Jessie's Mile, \$500 payout to anyone who hits a hold in one anywhere on the course

(donated to Jessie's Mile if no hole in one is hit in the event.)

This QR code will take you directly to the YSJ website or you can go to <https://yousuckjackass.com> to sign up there. If you prefer to sign up by paper or have questions, please call Dan Gordon, office – 815-626-5752. The QR code and website is where people can sponsor a hole, sign up to volunteer or sign up to pay. Spots fill up fast for players! Thanks for your support! Registration starts at 8:00 a.m.; Event starts at 9:00 a.m.

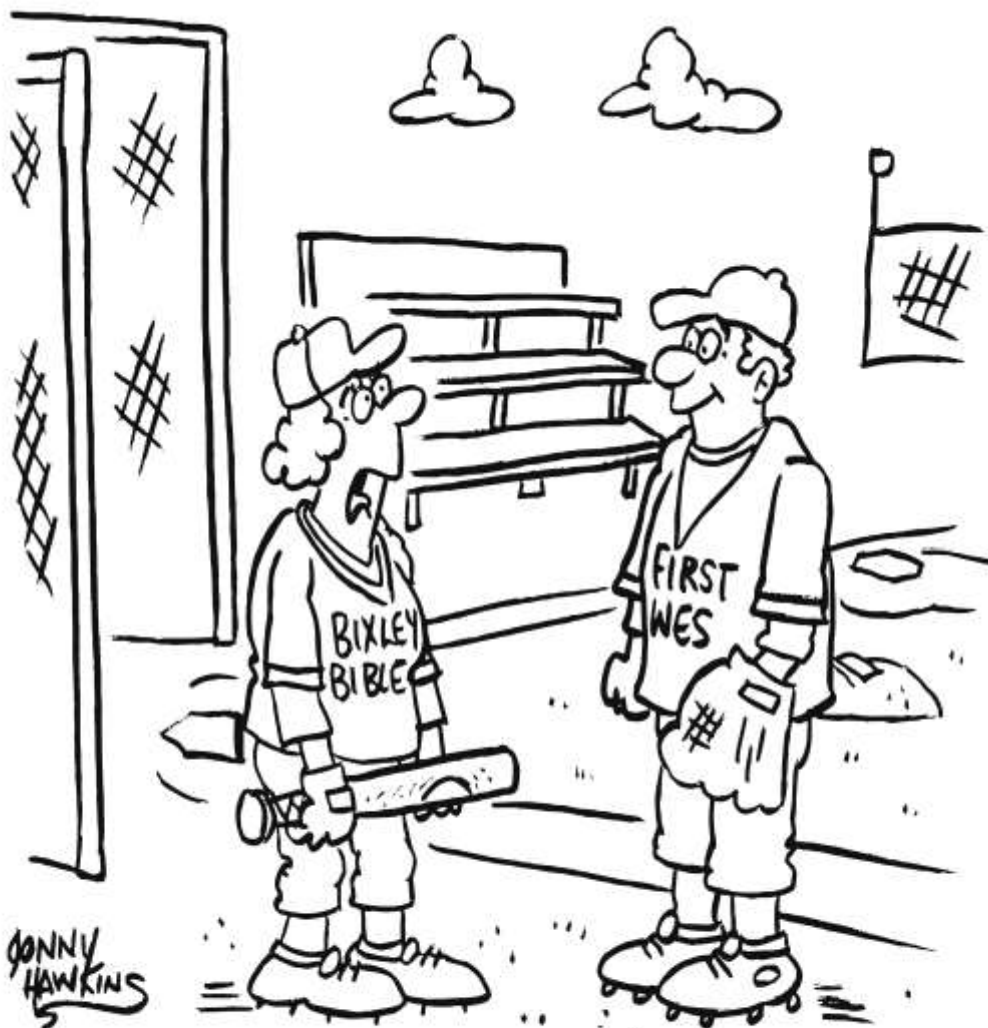


Immanuel Lutheran Church in Rock Falls is honored to host a Connection Recovery Group for people eighteen and older who are living with a mental health condition. The Connection Recovery Group is sponsored by the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Sauk area and meets the 4th Monday of each month from 6:00-7:30 p.m. in the Luther Room (downstairs) at Immanuel. New participants are most welcome. Please contact

namisaukarea@gmail.com with any questions. NAMI Sauk Area is dedicated to improving the quality of life for people with mental illness and their families through support, education, and advocacy. You can learn more about what NAMI Sauk Area offers at: <https://namisaukarea.org/>.



SUMMER



"We're short a couple players.
Mind if we use Holy Ghost runners?"

PUZZLE

A famous friendship

In the Bible, Ruth and Naomi are known for their loving friendship.

Directions: Using the key, fill in the blanks to see what Ruth says to Naomi.

“

U U A U A E O E E E

U E A A E E' U N O U U A U

A E O N C U A E U E A A

N C U A' A E O A N U E N A U

U E A A U U A

N U E N A U U N O

A E O A E E O

A E E E O

RUTH 1:16, NIV



W	A		E	T
B	U	H	D	O
G	R	L	Y	I
	N	S	P	M

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

Judy Bartel

Greg Zeigler

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

Gabby Law, Children Ministry

(815) 981-6470 – gabby@stpaulsterling.com



2024 Congregation Council

President – Chad Arians

Vice President – Greg Zeigler

Treasurer – Chrissy Zollinger

Secretary – Stacey Avelar

Christian Education/Youth

Stacey Avelar ('25)

Stewardship

Greg Zeigler ('25)

Social Outreach

Stacey Avelar ('25)

Lay Ministry & Worship

Chrissy Zollinger ('25)

Julie Woessner ('25)

Property & Management

Dan Bartel ('26)

Chad Arians ('25)

Members-at-large

David Carrillo ('25)

Mary Ordean ('26)

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

Office Hours: Monday – Friday; 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

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