



# THE MESSENGER

St. Paul Lutheran Church

## A Message from Pastor Mathew

*'From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he had to go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders, chief priests, and legal experts, and that he had to be killed and raised on the third day. Then Peter took hold of Jesus and, scolding him, began to correct him: "God forbid, Lord! This won't happen to you." But he turned to Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan. You are a stone that could make me stumble, for you are not thinking God's thoughts but human thoughts.'" -Matthew 16:21-23*

When Jesus tells the disciples that he will be killed and raised on the third day, Peter takes it hard. This is not the news Peter wanted to hear. This isn't what he signed up for.

Peter was after security, stability, power and influence. And with a guy like Jesus--the anointed one--the good life was in reach.

Jesus and the mission he shared are indeed powerful and promised life abundant. But what kind of power and what kind of abundant life?

When he was tempted in the wilderness Jesus refused to use his power solely for his own benefit. The tempter dared Jesus to look out only for himself and to use his position to call on angels to swoop in and care for him (Matthew 4:1-11). Jesus refused to be diverted from God's mission.

Instead of grasping at worldly power and authority, Jesus used his power and his position as God's son to heal people, to give bread away to hungry crowds free of charge, to care for the sick and to visit the outcast.

When Peter grabs hold of him, Jesus again focuses on what he came to do--teach us how to share our bread with one another and to be ambassadors of God's mercy. In his life, death and resurrection Jesus opened up the Kingdom of God to all who would follow him and share in God's mission.

In Christ,

Pastor Mathew



*The people of St. Paul gather to worship, reach out, and serve the Lord.*

## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

September 2 – Carrie Delheimer

September 2 – Kathy Rygh

September 7 – Marian Brown

September 12 – Melissa Rapp

September 16 – Meghan Heller

September 17 – Dylan Delheimer

September 17 – Mary Highland

September 18 – Addison Bibo

September 18 – Jake Heller

September 22 – Mason Walsberg

September 25 – John Mehlberg

September 26 – Wendy Boch

September 28 – Megan Schott

September 6 – Larry & Tracy Leach  
(1980)

September 15 – Lonny & Tonya  
Wilcox (2001)

## From Luther's Small Catechism

Luther on this part of the Apostle's Creed: "I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth."

"What does this mean?"

I believe that God has created me together with all that exists. God has given me and still preserves my body and soul: eyes, ears, and all limbs and senses; reason and all mental faculties.

In addition, God daily and abundantly provides shoes and clothing, food and drink, house and farm, spouse and children, fields, livestock and all property—along with all the necessities and nourishment



***Back-to-School Blessing***

## Prayer Chain Requests

If you would like someone added to our prayer chain, please contact Pastor Mathew, Julie Mehlberg, or Angie in the office. Please let them know when names should be removed from the prayer list as well.

## Serving at St. Paul

Are you interested in serving during worship? Lectors and ushers are needed for September as new schedules are being created. If you would like to serve as a lector or usher, please contact Angie in the church office. All are welcome to serve and all volunteers are much appreciated!

## Let's Support the Boys and Girls Club!

St. Paul is collecting items to donate to the Boys and Girls Club. The following items are being collected:

**Crayons, colored pencils, pencils, pens, construction paper, markers, rulers, notebooks, and pre-packaged snacks.**

Items will be collected during August and can be placed in the collection tub at the church on Sundays. Please contact the office to drop off items during the week.



## Flower Donations

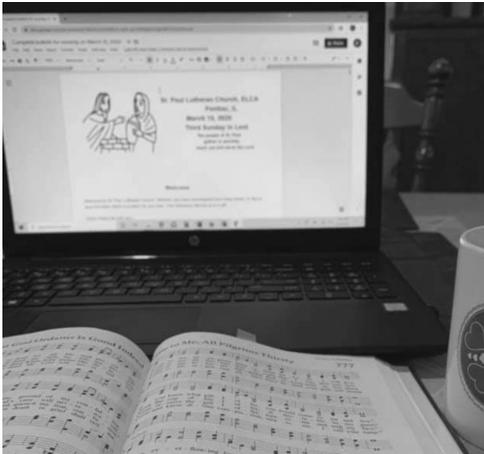
We will once again order fresh flowers for worship from County Market. Please sign up on the flower chart if you are interested in donating for a two-week span. Please write your check for \$25 to St. Paul Lutheran and include "flowers" on the memo line. We thank you in advance for helping to make our worship space beautiful to bring honor and glory to God.

## Member Spotlight

### Louis Kehinde

Louis Kehinde has served St. Paul in a variety of roles since becoming a member in 2013, but after changes in worship due to COVID-19, his role has become even more vital to the congregation. Louis has assisted Pastor Mathew and our leaders in providing live-streamed worship for the congregation. In addition, Louis assists with the audio/visual aspects of Sunday worship and records all worship services and sermons to upload to the St. Paul website. He is very familiar with the church's technology as he repairs and services all church and church office computers as needed. Louis has also served as an adult Sunday school leader for the past three years. Louis and his wife Lucy have three children and one granddaughter, Zaria.

Thank you to Louis for his service to St. Paul!



## In-Kind Gifts

In following the IRS rules and tax guide for churches and religious organizations, "a donor cannot claim a tax deduction for any single contribution of \$250 or more unless the donor obtains a written acknowledgment of the contribution from the recipient church." If you have made a non-cash gift of \$250 or more, please contact the church administrative secretary regarding your purchase and provide a receipt, and a letter of acknowledgment will be provided for your tax documents. If you have any questions, please call the church office.

## Congregational Council

**President**  
Julie Mehlberg

**Vice President**  
Doug Oliver

**Secretary**  
Carla Swieter

**Building & Grounds**  
Janice Schmidt

**Building Community Liaison**  
Mary Leach

**Lifelong Learning Liaison**  
Tonya Johnson-Wilcox

**Finance/Stewardship Liaison**  
Jake Dixon

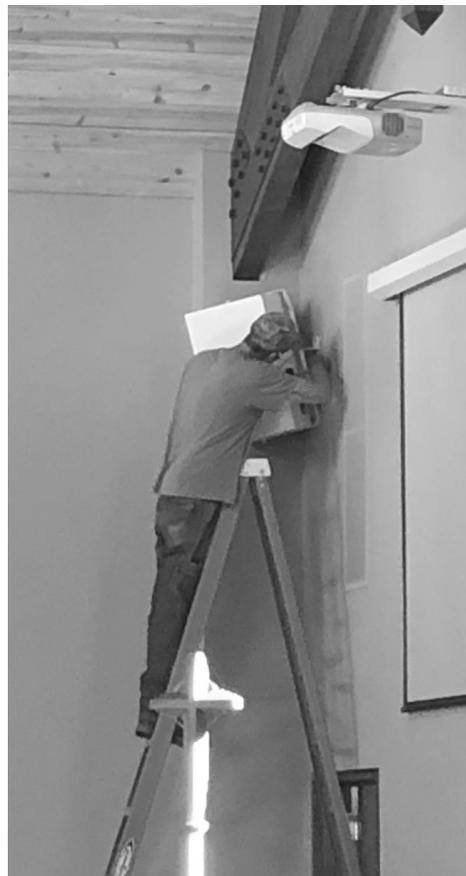
**Worship and Music Liaison**  
Shelly Heller

**Treasurer**  
Denny Leach

**Financial Secretary**  
Marion Brown

## Speaker Installation

As of August 19, the new speakers have been installed in the sanctuary! To all who have donated to this project, we thank you for your generosity! We pray that this installation will help in providing meaningful worship to all!





**Roadside and Landscape Clean-Up Day—Saturday, August 22**



**St. Paul Dinner and Music—Wednesday, August 26**

