

St. Paul Lutheran Church Weekly Updates and Announcements for February 1, 2023

WORSHIP

Worship: 10:00 am (in-person and livestreamed). Beginning February 5 we will have one service at 10 AM (in-person and livestreamed). This will help facilitate communication and support of each other during our time of transition. This is to be considered temporary.

- To view livestreamed or recorded services online, go to: <https://www.stpaulmissoulamt.org/watch-live> This page provides a link to the worship service, a link to the bulletin, and a way to make your offering online.
- Presiding and preaching in February, March, and April: Pastor Julie Long, our "Bridge" Pastor
- St. Paul services are broadcast weekly on MCAT: Wednesdays, 4 pm, Spectrum cable channel 189.
- Watch a replay of Sunday's service here: <https://www.youtube.com/live/ZNz4KQPbNHM?feature=share>

There have been 41 views of this video since Sunday.

- **Readings for February 5, 2023:** Isaiah 58:1-9a [9b-12]; Psalm 112:1-9 [10]; 1 Corinthians 2:1-12 [13-16]
- **ANNUAL MEETING, February 5, 2023:**

1 **The 2022 ANNUAL MEETING for St. Paul Lutheran Church will be held on February 5, 2023 after the 10:00 am worship service. The meeting will be both in-person and on Zoom. We do need 50 voting members in attendance (either in person or signed in to the ZOOM meeting) to make up a quorum.**

2 **Everybody is encouraged to sign-up for the annual meeting, whether you will be attending in-person or virtually, to indicate how many people will be attending.** Here is the SignupGenius link to preregister for the February 5th annual meeting (hold down ctrl & then click):

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/805094EA9AE2CA2FB6-2022>

If you need assistance signing up for the annual meeting, please call the church office, 406 549-4141 and we will be happy to assist you.

3 **If you wish to attend the Annual Meeting virtually, you may join the Zoom Meeting on your computer by clicking on the following link:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88567620065?pwd=eWxBU21lQVE1LzZmZDdOMG9UYnVkZz09>

Meeting ID: 885 6762 0065

Passcode: 108306

4 **If you would like to connect to the Annual Meeting on your smart phone,**

you can dial +1 253 215 8782 and use

Meeting ID: 885 6762 0065

Passcode: 108306

- **FAITH FAMILY GATHERING** Sunday, February 5th, 4-6:15pm (1st Sunday each month) Immanuel Lutheran

Building off of the success of the Around the Table gatherings and in the spirit of connection, Immanuel has invited St. Paul families to join them for their monthly Faith Family Gatherings. This intentional gathering is for the whole family with age group time (adults too), family time, and dinner. Let's connect with our fellow Lutheran families and build community! Please RSVP: colter@stpaulmissoula.org

- **FAMILY MATINEE** Saturday, February 11th, 2pm Lower Level Hall

It's an afternoon movie in your comfy clothes, popcorn provided! Please RSVP:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/805094EA9AE2CA2FB6-family3>

- **ASH WEDNESDAY AND GROW** Wednesday, February 22nd, 5:30pm

Come for dinner and then experience Ash Wednesday service as a family. Colter and Julie are working together to plan this meaningful evening for kids and families that begins Lent.

- **DINNER OUT TONIGHT FUNDRAISER** Friday, March 3rd, 5-6:30pm

Book your reservations now for St. Paul's favorite fancy dinner fundraiser run by our youth! Your choice of savory pork tenderloin, herb chicken, or grilled portobello with salad, roasted cauliflower, rolls, mashed potatoes and cheesecake. \$30/plate, pickup to-go and eat at home, or dine-in. Please click this link to sign up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/805094EA9AE2CA2FB6-dinner>

- **NOTE OF GRATITUDE:** Our percussionist, Neal Berntson, will be moving out of state after this Sunday, February 5. He has been an integral part of our worship leading for the last two years. We will very much miss his intuitive, skillful, and expressive playing for services, his willingness to contribute to the beauty of worship, and his smiling face. Neal, thank you for generously sharing your magnificent talent with this congregation.
- **ORGAN UPDATE:** The organ is now fully functional and is again leading our congregation in praising our Lord on Sundays!

- **VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED for Family Promise** to provide support to families living in the Family Housing Center from February 13 - 19. The Signup Genius link is available below to review the current needs. Just a couple hours will make a huge difference. If you have never volunteered, training is available. Give me a call -- Vicke Schend, 390-6074.



<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/805094EA9AE2CA2FB6-family4>



- **JOY BUNCH** welcomes anyone over 55 on the third Wednesday of every month. We meet in February on the 15th at 12:00 pm in # 210, the Fellowship Room.
- **ALTAR FLOWERS:** thank you to everyone who offered to sponsor the Altar Flowers in 2023. All the dates have been filled!!

MEET OUR "BRIDGE" PASTOR: Julie Long



Julie is a retired ELCA pastor, now living in Missoula. She attended seminary through the T.E.E.M. program (Theological Education for Emerging Ministries) of the ELCA, after retiring from a 30-year career in Forensic Science. Julie was ordained in 2014. She served nearly 10 years at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Broadus MT, first as a Synodically Authorized Minister (SAM) and then as their "called" pastor. She retired in November, 2021, and returned to their home in Missoula. Julie is a "cradle" Lutheran, born and raised in Wisconsin. She has been active in music ministry throughout her life as a vocalist, pianist, organist, and choir director as well as volunteer and staff positions in music, worship leadership, and planning.

Julie serves as a music and worship resource for the Montana Synod, leading workshops and instructing in the LPA program. Pastor Julie is very familiar with St. Paul. This was the first church she attended after moving here in the mid-1970's to attend UM. Over the years she has served here as a substitute organist/pianist and has provided pulpit supply.

WHAT IS A "BRIDGE" PASTOR?

This title is common in other parts of the ELCA and is very appropriate description for Pastor Julie's upcoming 3-month ministry with us. St. Paul is in a time of transition, experiencing loss of Pastor Chris, who served faithfully for 20 years, as well as the anxiety that comes with changes in leadership. We are all called to move forward in faith together and we need consistent leadership to travel from where we've been to get ready for what God has in store for us as a faith community in Missoula. Pastor Julie will accompany us as we begin this journey, traveling with us on the bridge. From February through April, she will be serving as our Bridge Pastor.

- **MEN'S BIBLE STUDY BREAKFAST** meets on Thursday mornings at 7:30 am in the Fellowship Room # 210.
- **WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY** The women of St. Paul will complete a study of the book of Matthew on the 16th of February and will begin a new study on Thursday, March 2nd. The new study is entitled "Great People of the Old Testament". We encourage all women to participate because we believe this will give participants a better understanding of the history, laws, and traditions of the Jewish people. The format is the same as the previous studies we have been using but this unit will feature 28 different Old Testament characters. If you are planning to join the study, and we hope you do, please pick up the first lesson after the 16th of February. (Elaine will have it at the church office.) If you have any questions, please contact Betty Rude, 406 543-3219 or Hazel Sorensen, 406 544-5913.
- **THE WOMEN OF SPIRIT book group** is reading THE BOOK OF JOY by the Dalai Lama and Desmond Tutu! They spent a week together in 2015 to celebrate the Dalai Lama's 80th birthday. They shared stories of their difficult lives and how they were able to find joy amid their suffering. The book study group meets every Monday evening from 6:00-7:00 to discuss small portions of the book. All women are welcome to join us. Call Jan Turbak (406251-3649) with questions.
- **MENS' QUILTING GROUP IS MEETING** on the 2nd and 4th Mondays at 6:30 pm in the Lower Level Fellowship Hall.
- **WOMEN'S QUILT MAKING, THURSDAYS AT 9:00 AM IN THE LOWER LEVEL FELLOWSHIP HALL.** All women are invited to come and help tie quilts. No experience is necessary. We are truly knotty, come and join in the fun!!
- **OFFICE HOURS, ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH:** 10:00 am until 4:00 pm, Monday through Thursday, or by appointment by calling (406) 549-4141.

PRAYERS

This week we pray for: † healing and good test results for Darrel Fite; † healing and hope for children who struggle with mental illness and for support for their families; † hope for all who face daily struggles with addiction, anxiety, depression, or PTSD; † comfort for all who have lost loved ones in mass shootings; † strength for all first responders and all who are serving their country; † comfort and resources for all who have been harmed by extreme weather conditions and strength for all who are responding to these events; † wellbeing for Karen and patience for caregivers; † discernment for Ron; † healing for Peggy, Richard's brother, Phyllis, Chuck's sister-in-law Debbie, and Beth † all who grieve; † protection for all who are fleeing danger in their homelands; † resilience for all healthcare workers; † an end to the war in Ukraine; † peace for the dying; † all who are imprisoned; † people to be able to discern between truth and misinformation; † peace and comfort for Vickie and Dave Huerta, Kathy's Aunt Ruth, Diane's mother, and Bonnie; † comfort for all who are difficult to love, lonely, unhoused, or hungry; † for common sense, compassion, and caring to be abundant. **Amen.**

GIVING

Your support of the ministry of St. Paul is greatly appreciated. A donation can be made on our website at www.stpaulmissoula.org/give, by choosing "Give" in the church app, or by mailing a check to the church office. Thank you for your continued generosity!