

St. Paul Lutheran Church Weekly Updates & Announcements for November 15, 2023

WORSHIP

Sunday Worship: 10:00 am (in-person and livestreamed)
Have trouble hearing the sermon? We have assistive listening devices in the credenza at the back of the sanctuary. Just ask the ushers for one.

- **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.
- **PREACHING AND PRESIDING: Intentional Interim Pastor Mark Galbraith**
PASTOR MARK'S OFFICE HOURS AND AVAILABILITY (BESIDES SUNDAYS):
Office hours: Mon-Thurs 10:00 AM-2:00 PM for all regular office business, and/or appointments, please contact me here at the church office.
Off-campus Mon-Thurs: for those "when-it-just-can't-wait-for-those-office-hours- moments", please email me at: sermonator.july91@gmail.com
or text (please identify yourself when you text me) 360-325-3227
Friday and Saturdays: days off, please reserve communication for emergencies only.
- **READINGS FOR NOVEMBER 19, 2023:** Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18; Psalm 90:1-8 [9-11] 12; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; Matthew 25:14-30
- **ST. PAUL SERVICES are broadcast weekly on MCAT:** Wednesdays, 4 pm, Spectrum cable channel 189.
- **WATCH A REPLAY OF SUNDAY'S SERVICE AT:**
<https://www.youtube.com/live/hRkcM2ERGz0?si=Dwd1MnX5Oo3gPd-L> There have been 40 views of this video since Sunday.
- **OFFICE HOURS, ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH:** 10:00 am until 4:00 pm, Monday through Thursday, or by appointment by calling (406) 549-4141.

- **EXCITING NEWS!! WE ARE IN "PHASE II" OF THE INTERIM MINISTRY AND SEASON OF**

DISCERNMENT. Mission Study Listening Session teams are trained, and are now offering the opportunity for all of the great and holy people of St Paul Lutheran Church to participate in these listening session groups.

The purpose of these groups is to come together and for everyone to have a chance to respond to the five questions listed below.

Please carefully note and take to heart that these are not planning, decision making, or debate meetings; these are sharing and listening meetings. Every participant will have a chance to respond to the questions without debate or challenge or decision making, while everyone else listens.

Mission or goals will surface from these groups that will guide and inform everything that will happen in the next chapter of ministry, including who St. Paul will call to be the next rostered leader of word and sacrament

All participants will be on the Holy Ground of not only God's presence, but of everyone's hearts, hopes, dreams, fears, uncertainties, anticipations, and excitement about St Paul's next chapter of ministry, in these groups.

Please take advantage of this opportunity to contribute your voice to St Paul's future, and also to grow in Community and Fellowship. The sign-up sheets are on tables in the narthex. You only need to sign up for one group and participate one time.

- **The Questions:**

- **1) What makes your heart sing** about St Paul Lutheran Church?
- **2) What are the challenges and opportunities before us** for the next chapter of ministry?
- **3) What are the Mission or Guiding Goals you sense God calling St Paul to embrace** for the next chapter of ministry?
- **4) What needs to change at St Paul for how we "do church",** for these calls to become reality?
- **5) What are the next ministry and leadership skills,** (not personal qualities!), the next Pastor needs to have the help and partner with St Paul for these mission/guiding goals to become reality?

Scandinavian Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, November 19, 2023
9 AM to 1:30 PM
\$9.00

Sons of Norway
Nordic Pines
5795 Hwy 93 South

Scandinavian pancakes, ham, fruit,
juice and coffee



Sponsored by Sons of Norway
Proceeds to St. Patrick House



- **REHEARSAL: WOMEN'S SINGING GROUP** Please come to our first practice on Monday, November 20th at noon in the sanctuary. We hope to sing for the 3:00 Christmas Eve service and for one of the upcoming Sunday Advent services.

- **2023 GIVING RECORDS:** *All giving for 2023 must be received in the church office no later than December 26, 2023.* Gifts received after December 26, 2023 will be reflected on your 2024 giving statement.

- **SAVE THIS DATE: FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15, 9:00 AM for Christmas Cookie Plate assembly.** We will need DOZENS OF CHRISTMAS COOKIES AND HOMEMADE CANDIES to fill plates that will go to the homebound and bereaved. THANK YOU FOR HELPING WITH THIS MINISTRY!!!

- **MEDICARE RECIPIENTS: It is time to review for Medicare Part D insurance.** Marge Samsoe has offered to assist anyone who would like help doing this. **Deadline to make changes in your coverage is December 7.** You can reach Marge at 406-207-2596 or by email at margesamsoe@gmail.com

- **ABOUT CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES:**

LET'S SUPPORT OUR KIDS AND YOUTH! One meaningful way for grown-ups to support children is to show up and cheer them on when they have important events, games, and performances. In an effort to foster this kind of support, St. Paul will publish information about these events. If you're a parent or grandparent, send information including time, date, location, cost/tickets, and name(s) of kid(s) to colter@stpaulmissoula.org.

This week's opportunities to show up:

- ❖ For the week of November 6, Sam Fontaine and Natalie Bates have a swim meet at the Griz pool from November 10 through November 12. Contact Charla Fontaine at (541) 505-4759 for specific events and times.

- ❖ Tickets are now available and starting to sell out to see Ellie Fontaine and Maya Leischner in Garden City Ballet's *Nutcracker*. Tickets can be purchased using the GrizTix link below or going to the box office at the Adam's Center. <https://griztix.venue.net/cgi-bin/ncommerce3/SEGetEventList?groupCode=GCB&linkID=montana&shopperContext=&caller=&appCode=>

- **GROW – for grades K thru 5, Sundays at 11:20 am** Come be part of St. Paul's weekly faith formation program for kids! After a heavy snack, head upstairs to kid's choir, and then enjoy a story and craft/activity. Please RSVP at this link for all dates your children will attend: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/805094EA9AE2CA2FB6-grow3>

- **2023 CHRISTMAS PROGRAM Sunday, December 10th, 10am** St. Paul's annual kids Christmas Program will be held during 10am worship on Sunday, December 10th. All elementary kids are invited to participate. Rehearsals are Sundays after worship beginning November 12th. **Please contact Colter if your kids plan to take part and haven't been attending GROW:** colter@stpaulmissoula.org

- **ELCA NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING New Orleans, LA, July 16-20, 2024** Every three years, the National Youth Gathering brings high school youth together for a week of faith formation. This year's gathering is in New Orleans, a vibrant city rich in culture and good food! Registration has already opened. Fundraising expected, and financial assistance available from congregations as well. If your high school student is interested in traveling to the Gathering this summer, please contact trip leader Colter Murphy ASAP: colter@stpaulmissoula.org.



- **OFFICE TELEPHONE UPDATE:** The office is in the process of updating the phone messages and protocols so they are reflective of current voices on staff. **If you call the office and nobody answers, it likely means that we are busy on another call or assisting another member. Please leave your voicemails on the extension you were trying to contact, and we will respond at the earliest opportunity.**



- **QUILT TOPS NEEDED:** During the summer months it seems that our quilt top makers have been doing fun things outside instead of making quilt tops inside. In the meantime, the quilting group has continued to put quilts together and we are now running low on tops. Yikes! Fabric and instructions are located in the LLFH Quilting closet if you would like to participate in this ministry. The dimensions of the tops: 62 x 84. Please feel free to stop by the Lower Level on Thursday mornings between 9 and 11 and see how the quilts are put together.

- **CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP:** Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday this year so on December 24 we will have our normal Sunday morning service at 10 am to celebrate the Fourth Sunday of Advent. Then, at 3 pm and 7 pm, we will celebrate Christmas Eve with choirs, candles, and communion! The 7 pm service will also include a brass quartet to add to the festivities! After our full Sunday on December 24, **we will not have a service on Monday, December 25,** but all the excitement on the 24th should carry over to enrich your private family celebrations on Christmas Day.

- **MEN'S BIBLE BREAKFASTS:** are held on Thursdays at 7:30 a.m. in the upstairs Fellowship Room # 210. All men are invited to take part in these sessions featuring great food, semi-great coffee, fellowship, prayer, and spiritual renewal through the reading/discussion of scripture. We hope that you will consider joining us--try it, you might love it! If you have questions, contact Don Spritzer, 406 549-5582. We hope to see you there.

- **WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY:** The Women's Bible Study meets on the first and third Thursdays each month at 1 PM in Rm # 210, the Fellowship Room. Our subject is "Great People of the Old Testament." All women are invited to participate. New students are most welcome! Question? Please contact Betty Rude, 543-3219 or Hazel Sorensen, 728-3278.

- **THE WOMEN OF SPIRIT BOOK STUDY GROUP** is discussing the book, **CHOOSE JOY** by Kay Warren, on Mondays, at 6:00 pm in room # 208. Questions: please contact Jan Turbak, 406 251-3649.

- **WOMEN'S QUILTMaking MEETS THURSDAYS AT 9:00 AM** in the Lower Level Fellowship Hall.

- **MEN'S QUILTING MEETS ON THE 2ND AND 4TH MONDAYS AT 6:30 PM** in the Lower Level Fellowship Hall.

PRAYERS

This week we pray for: † Thanksgiving for Don's healing; † healing for Doug, Jan's brother Joe, John, Alan, Kate M., Peggy, and Chuck's sister-in-law Debbie; all recovering from surgery; for Asa, Delana and Derold; Bill's sister-in-law; Denny and for good results for Janet W; † young people who face mental illness; † all who wrestle with addiction, anxiety, depression, or PTSD; † those in the Holy Land: Almighty God, the terror of war, violence, trauma, and pain are heavy on our hearts and those in Israel and Palestine. For the lives lost, families broken; the fear of not knowing; we pray for your peace and strength. We ask for wisdom and grace for leadership. But overall, we pray for forgiveness, peace, and your hands to work in the hearts and lives of all in the Holy Land. We trust you remain faithful and present, that in Christ all things are made new; † peace to prevail in Ukraine; † all who have been affected by earthquakes, floods, hurricanes, and wildfires; † all who have lost loved ones to gun violence; † people to embrace caring for all of creation; † protection, strength, and resilience for all who work elections, all who work in health care, all first responders, and all who serve their country; † refugees; † peace for the dying; † all who are incarcerated; † people to acknowledge truth and disregard misinformation; † peace and comfort for Diane's mother; † all who are challenging to love, lonely, unhoused, or hungry; † an outpouring of common sense and kindness. **Amen.**

GIVING

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

God's Healing Hope and Peace,

St. Paul Staff
(406) 549-4141