

St. Paul Lutheran Church Weekly Updates & Announcements for August 23, 2023

WORSHIP

Sunday Worship: 10:00 am (in-person and livestreamed)

- **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.
 - **OFFICE HOURS, ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH:** 10:00 am until 4:00 pm, Monday through Thursday, or by appointment by calling (406) 549-4141.
 - **PREACHING AND PRESIDING AUGUST 27, 2023: Pastor Julie Long**
 - **READINGS FOR AUGUST 27, 2023:** Isaiah 51:1-6; Psalm 138; Romans 12:1-8; Matthew 16:13-20
- ST. PAUL SERVICES are broadcast weekly on MCAT: Wednesdays, 4 pm, Spectrum cable channel 189.
- **WATCH A REPLAY OF SUNDAY'S SERVICE:** <https://www.youtube.com/live/JaZM4Iw54Ec?feature=share>
There have been 37 views of this video since Sunday.

God's beloved people:

The peace of Christ be with you always.

I wish to thank all you, great and holy people of God of St. Paul, from the bottom of my heart, for all your expressions of support, care, love, and prayers in the advent of my mother's passing.

My mother, JoAnn, was 87 1/2 years old at her graduation into life eternal in the Hope of the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, and hers was a life well and long-lived. I remain grateful that I was able to have special time and holy conversation with her last month when I was back home for birthday week.

I will be gone August 18-25 for my scheduled time on Orcas Island WA at the family beach house. Mom's Celebration of Life service will be at my home church, Grace Lutheran Church, in Blaine WA August 26. I will remain for a few days afterwards for some decompression and bereavement time with my family and friends. I will return before the weekend of September 2.

Pastor Julie Long will pulpit supply August 27; area colleagues will be available for emergency pastoral needs. Thank you again for all your support and prayers. It means so much.

Pastor Mark

- **CALLING ALL BAKERS! Emmaus Campus Ministry will be on campus tabling ALL WEEK THIS NEXT WEEK and passing out goodies for newly arrived students! We need cookies and sweets!** Want to help out? Simply bake as many cookies as you wish (your choice what kind!) and drop them off at the Emmaus House (538 University Ave.) Thank you so much! *Eric Huseh, Campus Pastor at the University of Montana*
- **FAMILY PROMISE THANKS:** Thanks to all of our congregants who volunteered to help out with the needs during our rotation for Family Promise last week. Everyone's contribution makes such a difference for the 31+ families sharing space together at the Family Housing Center. Until our next rotation, Nov 13-19, there are some needs that you may be able to help out with. There is a need for new or gently used full and twin sheet sets and towels (wash cloths, hand and bath towels). If you have any donations, you may drop them by the Housing Center, 1800 S 3rd Street E or I can pick them up, call me at (406) 390-6074, *Vicke Schend*.
- **FAITH FAMILY GATHERING (outdoors at the Marks House) Sunday, September 10, 4-6:15**
Faith Family Gatherings are an awesome way to connect with other families and your family. Held once a month on the 2nd Sunday, they include large group worship, peer group time, family time, and dinner. The first one of the year is at the house and apple orchard of the Marks family. Please use the link below to sign up, and if you can, sign up to bring a dessert or side to share. Bring a lawn chair, the address for this gathering is on the signup page:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080d4aa5ab2da2fa7-immanuel26#/>
- **FALL FAITH FESTIVAL SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17TH, right after worship** Mark your calendars...
St. Paul's favorite fun event for the entire congregation returns! Plan to attend this community festival, and prayerfully consider contributing your time, money, or unused Thrivent Action Grant toward the effort. Sign up using this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/805094EA9AE2CA2FB6-fall1>



- **GROW Kickoff Sunday, September 24, 11:40am**
GROW will be held right after church this fall. After worship, kids and families can head downstairs for coffee hour snacks and fellowship with the congregation. At 11:40am, Janelda will lead the Kid's Choir in rehearsal in the sanctuary, and then we'll head to room 208 (usual GROW room) for stories and crafts/activities. GROW will conclude at 12:45pm. Please RSVP for the weeks your kids will attend GROW:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/805094EA9AE2CA2FB6-grow3>
- **LOCAL EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FUND:** A large number of recent requests for emergency assistance has put a noticeable dent in the Emergency Fund. Everyone is invited to donate to this fund which is used to help those who come to the church office in emergent need of a night's lodging, gas, or food. This is for immediate assistance only and those making these requests are directed to other resources for further assistance. Thanks for your generosity!
- **THE WOMEN OF SPIRIT WILL START THE BOOK A BOX OF BUTTERFLIES** by Roma Downey. She was Monica in the TV series "Touched By An Angel". It's an uplifting book filled with comfort, hope, and assurance of God's presence in our

lives. We'll begin discussing the book on Monday, Sept. 11th from 6-7:00pm in Rm # 208. We read and discuss about 40 pages each week. All women are welcome.

THE DIVINE DRAMA IS COMING! ANNOUNCING:

THE DIVINE DRAMA: THE BIBLICAL NARRATIVE AND OUR NARRATIVE

- Part 1 is a 16-unit overview of the biblical narrative. Part II is a 14-unit overview of the biblical basis for core Christian teaching,
 - With Advent/Christmas 4-week video teaching focus series **"A Clear View of Jesus' Birth"**, presented by Presbyterian Teaching Elder and Teaching Canon in Residence for The Episcopal Church, The Rev. Dr. Ken Bailey.
- Created by The Rev. Dr. Harry Wendt (Australian Lutheran Pastor), The Divine Drama takes us into the "highlight reel" of the biblical narrative and immerse us into the unity of the Hebrew and Christian scriptures. *As part of our discernment, The Divine Drama invites us into God's Mission Goals and dreams for God's people and the world.*
- Materials available via solapublishing.com (\$55.60 plus shipping). Please order by Labor Day 2023.
 - Click on the "Crossways tab, then the materials (Student Manual, workbook, and binders are on pages 2 & 4)
- Begins the week of **September 11 and concludes the week of May 20, 2024. There will be 2 sessions offered each week, Monday evenings 7:00-8:30 PM and Tuesday mornings 9:30-11:00 AM. Participants are welcome to come to either/or, depending on your personal schedule (Or you may come for both, if you are so inclined 😊).**
- Fellowship-n-snacks 30 mins before. Please bring snacks and drinks to share. All welcome, members and non-members, high school age on up.

THE GARY TURBAK MEMORIAL BACK-TO-SCHOOL CLOTHING PROJECT 37 YEARS OF PROVIDING CLOTHES TO CHILDREN IN NEED.

What an amazing year for the Back to School clothing Event!! More than 375 kids got a full set of new clothing from the store --- that included top, jeans, socks, underwear, and shoes. That's double the number from two years ago!! Several bags of clothes have been taken to the Family Resource Centers in the schools, so another 100 kids will receive some items.

The amount of money donated was almost double that of two years ago! The Dennis Washington Foundation donated \$1,500, as did a former member of this church! Clearwater Credit Union and United Way donated \$1,000. I had more than \$1,200 to spend at Dillards on kids clothes! Individuals (mostly from this church) donated over \$12,000! Other businesses that donated to the event include ROSS, 1st Security Bank, both Walmarts, Thrivent, and Sheels. Praise the Lord!! I think God does approve of this event. 😊

Churches that donated socks and underwear include Holy Spirit Episcopal, St. Francis Xavier, Christ the King, St. Anthony, Atonement Lutheran, 1st United Methodist, Spirit of Peace, St. Ann's Catholic Parish, and St. Paul Lutheran!

There were more than 50 wonderful people who volunteered for a variety of jobs!! About 20 came to help set-up that Monday morning, and we finished in less than two hours!! A special thank you to Sheila Gray and Vicke Schend for doing most of the shopping. There are so many special people who helped with many tasks; I don't dare start naming them all because I'll undoubtedly miss some! Just a huge **thank you** to everyone who helped! Many volunteers said that they wanted to sign up again next year.

Thank you for all your time, money and prayers! Thank the Lord for giving us the opportunity to help those in need in our community. It takes a village --- and we have a great one! *Jan Turbak*

- **WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY:** The Women's Bible Study will resume on September 7th at 1 PM in Rm # 210, the Fellowship Room. We will continue the study "Great People of the Old Testament." The first session will be a review and a time to share thoughts related to the first 6 lessons. All women are invited to participate. New students are most welcome! If you have questions, please contact Betty Rude, 543-3219 or Hazel Sorensen, 728-3278.
- **WOMEN'S QUILTMaking MEETS THURSDAYS AT 9:00 AM IN THE LOWER LEVEL FELLOWSHIP HALL.** Come and learn what knot to do!!

PRAYERS

This week we pray for: † peace and comfort for Kathy's sister, Jeanne Brown, grieving her husband's death; † guidance and resources for Alessandro who is helping with Red Cross efforts in Maui; † recovery for Derald; † healing for Rick; † strength and courage for Bettijane † all who have lost loved ones in the fire in Maui, resources for all who have lost their homes and livelihoods; comfort and strength for the loved ones of all who are still missing; † Bill's sister-in-law; † comfort and healing for Frankie's young cousin Asa; † good test results for Janet W.; † Denny's comfort and well-being; † healing for Isaac's eye; † complete recovery for Hazel's daughter Kaati and Kristin's cousin Delana; † comfort for all who have lost loved ones to gun violence; † people of all ages to embrace a deeper connection to creation; † safety for Josh during deployment; † healing for Kate M., Peggy, and Chuck's sister-in-law Debbie; † patience for all caregivers; † all who are struggling through heat waves, wildland fires, flooding, tornadoes or extraordinary rainstorms; † young people who struggle with mental illness and guidance and wisdom for their families; † peace for all who struggle with addiction, anxiety, depression, or PTSD; † rejuvenation for all health care workers, first responders, and all serving their country in the military; † refugees who are fleeing violence in their homelands; † peace in Sudan, the Middle East, and Ukraine; † peace for the dying; † all who are incarcerated; † people to hear truth and reject misinformation; † peace and comfort for Kathy's Aunt Ruth, Diane's mother, and Bonnie; † all who are hard to love, lonely, unhoused, or hungry; † all the children of God; † a flood of common sense and compassion. **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!

God's Healing Hope and Peace,
St. Paul Staff (406) 549-4141