

# St. Paul's Church

July Newsletter

651-388-7106

Dear Church Family,

I hope this newsletter finds you enjoying summer! As I write this to you, my mind keeps drifting to Park Point in Duluth. My family is anticipating our annual summer trek to the North Shore where we will hunt for agates, driftwood, sea glass and other treasure. I hope you and your loved ones are also finding things to enjoy this summer.

I do not want to wish away summer, but at the same time, I am also really looking forward to the exciting time fall will be here at St. Paul's. We will once again be together and Sunday School, Confirmation, Choir, Bible Study and fellowship and will all begin again.

This fall we will also celebrate and give thanks for the work of Linda Kuyath, our retiring Administrative Assistant, and also Lynne Petersen, our long standing Church Musician and Choir Accompanist. The church council is currently planning a celebration and more details will be shared in August.

We welcome to our church staff our new Administrative Assistant Jennifer Bushinski. Jennifer will work in the church office on Mondays and Wednesdays. The church building will remain secured during office hours so please call in advance to arrange a time to stop in for any in person needs. Your church council is currently working on advertising our need for a musician and we will keep you informed as that develops.

Happy Summer Everyone!

Always,  
Pastor Dana



*St. Paul's Lutheran Church*

*Website: [www.stpaulsredwing.org](http://www.stpaulsredwing.org)*

*Email: [stpaulc@stpaulsredwing.org](mailto:stpaulc@stpaulsredwing.org)*

June 18, 2021

Hi everyone,

We've had a couple of timely, much needed rains lately and I hope each of you escaped any major wind damage that came with some of it. Pray that the showers keep coming!

Leadership and Council both met in person this month for the first time in a long time and it was so good to be with everyone as we make plans to continue moving St. Paul's forward. We've made it to summer which is generally a quieter time around church. The choir is on recess, council takes the month of July off, and families are off on vacation spending quality time together. Still, church has been quite full the first 2 Sundays of June which is great to see.

At this point I don't think you can expect to see just too many more changes relative to the last year in the next couple of months as we are already back to 2 in person services on the weekend with most of our other restrictions lifted or optional. Expect a further return to normal in September. We will now begin having funerals and funeral luncheons in our building again and we will celebrate many first communions during Sunday worship over the next several weeks as our kiddos have completed their preparation classes on June 6. Additionally, on June 6, the Invite Team planned and executed a very nice celebration of our graduates where they received a quilt made by some of our members. Council would also like to bring coffee and treats back to the Narthex on Sunday mornings. In order for this to happen we will need volunteers to sign up to make, serve, and clean up afterwards. Similar to what you have seen in the Narthex for reader and greeter volunteers, you will find a signup sheet if you would like to host coffee hospitality in this way. Thank you in advance for raising your hand.

Lastly, I would like to personally welcome our new Administrative Assistant, Jennifer Bushinski, to our church family. By the time you read this she will have started working, on June 21. We are very glad to have her on board and look forward to her tenure with St. Paul's and pray that she has a great experience with us! Linda Kuyath will be very hands on with training Jennifer in the short term as well as when new things come up over the coming months. Linda is very committed to a seamless transfer, the continued success of St. Paul's, as well as success for Jennifer. We cannot thank Linda enough. Additional gratitude is due to Joyce Nelson, our treasurer, for being especially instrumental in this hiring process. Jennifer will be at St. Paul's on Monday and Wednesday each week. Please continue to call ahead, for now, if you need to come to church on those days as the front doors will remain locked as they have been.

Hope to see you in church,

Matt Boyle

St. Paul's Council President



**A message from our Quilters:**

Many thanks to everyone who has donated items for our Care Kits. (And many thanks for the ongoing donation of sheets, yarn, fabric, etc.). We are so grateful for your generosity and support of this ministry. We've said it many times, but it still holds true: "We couldn't do it without you!" We have postponed delivering quilts and Care Kits to the Lutheran World Relief warehouse in South St. Paul until later in the summer, so we can still use donations. In particular, we are in need of:

**For the Personal Care Kits:**

Dark Colored Bath Towels

Sturdy Combs

Nail Clippers



**For the Baby Care Kits:**

Diaper Pins

Baby Soap (Bar)



**For the School Care Kits:**

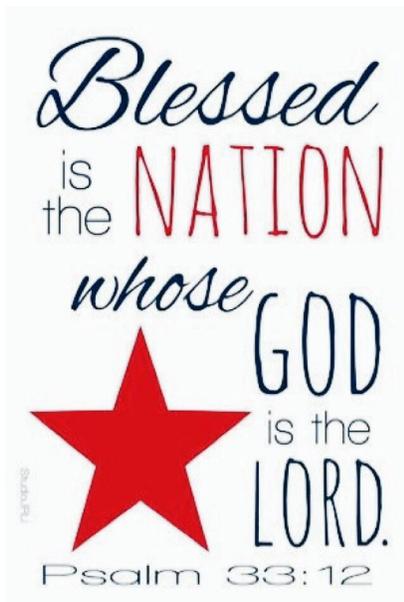
70 page spiral notebooks (wide or college ruled)

Pencil Sharpeners



Thank you! Thank you!! Thank you!!! for always coming through when we need donations or when we host a Craft Sale. Speaking of which, we are hopeful that a sale will be possible this fall - if Covid19 is under control. We have usually held the sale in early November - in plenty of time for Christmas gift buying. In the meantime, if you need something that you know we make, you can special order. Call Elaine Scharpen or Maggie Sprick for more information. The income from our sale buys our batting and other supplies, as well as making it possible for us to contribute to projects in need of funds at church.

Bless you all! Enjoy your summer!



*Have a safe and fun  
filled holiday!*

*Reminder: No services on  
July 3 or 4th*

Suzy Jagusch is looking for anyone that might be willing to sign up for a week to weed around the front sign this summer. If you are interested in volunteering to help with this, please contact Suzy at 651-388-6831.

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Dear Pastor Dana and Everyone at St. Paul's,

We received your donation of \$477.29 and it made our day! What a gift you have given us and what a year this has been so far. You are helping give hope to so many others in need, all while helping us reach our goal. Thank you!

Sara Kern, Hope Coalition Executive Director

**Note from Church office:**

This donation was made possible by your generous donation of pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters to our Noisy Offering! Thank you!!



**Financial Update**

Thanks to your generosity, St. Paul's has weathered Covid in good financial position. Giving year-to-date compared to last year is up 3.75% and expenses are down 13%.

	2021	2020
Year-to-date Giving	\$162,863	\$156,971
Year-to-date Expenses	<u>\$ 99,740</u>	<u>\$114,725</u>
Giving Minus Expenses	\$ 63,123	\$ 42,246

Thanks to staff and the leadership team for keeping expenses in line with giving and cutting expenses where possible. As we open for more activities in the church building and are able to support more community activities, expenses will increase but our cash position is good. We look forward to this fall when we can come together for worship, fellowship, faith education, service activities and more.

Thank you for supporting the ministry of St. Paul's!

*Mark you calendars!!*

*August 28th, 2021*

Join us for an evening of Music, Inspiration, and fun in Central Park with Brad Boice.

There will be a short church service and Gospel Show starting at 5:00 p.m.

Following a break when you can visit with Brad, get treats from the food trucks, or enjoy your own picnic.

The Elvis Show will begin at 7:00 p.m. Brad was here two years ago when Central Park was filled with people having a great time and wanting more! So we are finally going to get more! If you missed this event last time, you don't want to miss out again! If you were there, for sure you will want to experience this very special evening again.

(Bring lawn chairs or blankets for seating)



*The Elvis Show with Brad Boice*