

THE MESSENGER

AUGUST 2025

Hallowed Ground

I had the exceptional privilege this summer to go on a pilgrimage to the Isle of Iona in Scotland. I was invited by friends who serve at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Edina, who have been offering pilgrimage journeys to their community for several years now. A pilgrimage is a kind of spiritual travel. Not exactly a vacation, it is an opportunity to go to a place of spiritual significance to grow closer to God.

Iona has been a sacred site even before Christians first came there. In the year 563, St. Columba traveled from Ireland to Scotland and landed there. He built a monastery on the island, from which he spread Christianity through the Pict peoples who lived on the isles. The kind of Christianity practiced by the Celts at this time was different from the Christianity that came through Roman Britain later. This form of Christianity was more earth-centered, and wove together the animistic practices that already existed, rather than stamping them out. There is evidence that ancient pre-Christian practices were observed in tandem with the monks who chanted and prayed the hours in the Abbey. Columba is said to have spoken with angels on the same knoll that the faeries would haunt. Sacred wells dotted the island, emphasizing these ancient people's devotion to fresh water and the life it brought them. Likewise, tall standing stone crosses marked the pilgrim's route. Some had stood in the same place for hundreds of years. They were worn and rounded by the countless hands who stopped to touch them in prayer.

Over its remarkably long history, Iona Abbey was ruined many times. In Colum-

ba's time, buildings were made of wood and thatch, and frequently caught fire and burned to the ground. Yet from these volatile buildings, the monks created an incredible illuminated gospel book, now known as the Book of Kells. In the 800s, Vikings attacked, pillaging the abbey and slaughtering monks where they stood. The remnant eventually fled to Ireland with their sacred manuscript, which eventually gave the book its name. In the 1200s, the Benedictines arrived and built a stone abbey. They also built a companion abbey for women. These flourished until the reformation, when many abbeys were closed and their wealth was taken away. In the 1800s and 1900s, the community returned again, restoring the abbey and worshiping in new and transformative ways. Today Iona is known for creating powerful new words for ancient liturgies. The invitation to our communion table, which so radically insists on the welcome of Jesus, comes from this modern Iona Community.

For more than a thousand years, Christians kept returning, rebuilding, and recommitting to love God and love neighbor on that soil, from within those stones. This would not have been possible if those communities did not truly follow God's commandment to love. It was the people who served from these buildings that made them sacred places of worship.

This gave me great hope for the challenges we face in at our church, in our nation, and across the world today. These ancient stones experienced the hopes, dreams, and prayers of countless pilgrims, monks, and nuns. They also watched as empires rose and fell, violent raiders came and



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went, religious wars erupted, kings jockeyed for power, and much more. Nothing was solved in one generation. Nothing was broken in one generation, either. Each generation simply sought the love of God, and to give it, to the best of their ability, with the resources they had at hand. Through it all, that sacred island persisted because it was a place of service to God and to others.

The same thing will be true of our church. Our great and beautiful stone building will remain important and hallowed ground for as long as loving Christians serve others from it. I pray that, as we continue to talk about our building and our sacred home, we remember the central purpose that it holds: holy ground through it all; a place of love, come what may.

Peace,
Maggie

Safe Church Training

St. Paul's prioritizes safety for everyone. All staff and volunteers who have a key to the church, or who work with children or vulnerable adults, must be trained in the Safe Church program, which is done at your own pace on your own device. To remain compliant with this program, you repeat it every three years. Several volunteers will receive emails from Rita in the Parish Office this summer requesting that you repeat this training. Please complete the training within two months of receiving notice. Thank you! — RMR



Racial Justice and Healing Retreat in Duluth

Racial Justice and Healing Retreat

Saturday, September 20, St. Andrew's by the Lake, Duluth

9:00 am—5:30 pm

Save the Date for the fourth ECMN Racial Justice and Healing Retreat. This in-person retreat utilizes our Eucharistic liturgy as a frame for understanding ministries of racial justice and healing as an integral element of our ongoing spiritual formation and discipleship. The retreat will interweave components of prayer, somatic (body) work, lecture, small group sharing, and tools for how to respond to what you will learn. During this retreat we will look at how systemic racism impacts education.

To register visit: <https://episcopalmn.org/events/open-all/racial-justice-and-healing-retreat>.

Please consider joining us.

Respectfully submitted,
Angie Shambour and Beth Fait

Deadline to submit items for the September issue of *The Messenger* is
8:00 am, Thursday, August 21, 2025.

Please email items to:
office@stpaulsduluth.org

Notes of a Different Kind

Dear Friends in Christ,

I don't usually talk about my travel experiences in such a public forum, but , on my recent trip to Paris, I was struck by something I believe is worth sharing.

I was visiting Alex in Hamburg, and we went to Paris for two reasons: he wanted to see the Eiffel Tower, and I wanted to see Notre Dame Cathedral since it reopened following the tragic fire. When I was there in May of 2018, my first trip off the North American continent, I climbed the stairs out of the metro, and I was right in front of the cathedral.

My knees went weak, and I was overcome with emotion. I believe it is truly the world's church as people come from all over to see it. Most of the days I spent in Paris, I would make plans to see the typical sites as Paris is rich with culture and historical interest, but I always found myself drawn to sit in front of Notre Dame and people-watch. A different language walked by me every minute or so. It was fascinating to see how people responded to being in the presence of such a landmark that has historical significance in so many ways. As a student of music history, this is a place that changed the course of music through the work of Leonin and Perotin. Their work is the earliest example of independent voices singing in parts. (My medieval music history professor did a lot of research in Paris and always stopped to toast the cathedral with Chambord as soon as she arrived in Paris.) I found, however, I was drawn to this place for something more than its history. It is a holy place, and holy things and holy people have gathered there for centuries. The depth of its witness cannot be measured, but it is a place that finds deep places in my soul.

I arrived home on Friday, June 27, and since I had to play for church on Sunday, I was at St. Paul's the next day to prepare for worship the following day. I was struck by the beauty of this church, built with love and a vision for the future in similar ways to those who began construction on Notre Dame in the twelfth century. Similar to Notre Dame, you cannot walk in without an acute awareness that God is present. The same words and sacraments and prayers and music call us to our place to worship the same God. I find that comforting and astonishing all at the same time.

Blessings on your summer,

*Tom Hamilton,
Minister of Music*



Musings From the Senior Warden



Summer is in full swing now and the world outside becomes more colorful, aromatic and warm! Duluthians take every opportunity to get outside on good days and many are out biking, walking or running even on iffy days. Our church season slows down in most summers, however, this summer the Capital Campaign committees are already engaged and working hard, getting ready for the kick-off later this year. There is also work being done by the Outreach Committee coordinating grants to local human service organizations, as well as discussions about staffing, Christian formation, Rally Day, scholarships, music and more.

On Fridays, I have been attending a Bible Study/Book Club at St. Paul's and we are now reading Song in a Weary Throat by the Rev. Dr. Pauli Murray. Descended from both slave and slave owner, Murray was an early civil rights activist, women's rights activist, lawyer, and author. Murray became the first black woman to be ordained as an Episcopal priest. Her memoir covers her experiences growing up in both the south (Durham, NC) and the north (NYC) during Jim Crow (and coined the phrase 'Jane Crow' when recognizing the intersection of color and gender discrimination), as well as her social justice work, law school, work as a civil rights attorney and later, becoming an Episcopal priest. Pauli often mentioned the gifts of grace that occurred within the nightmare of arrests, persecutions and the ongoing social systems of discrimination, veiled in 'Separate but Equal' doctrine. Our discussions at times focused on showing grace and kindness, even in the most trying times.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Diener

Film Showings of Under The Bridge: The Criminalization of Homelessness

Under the Bridge is an award-winning documentary film about one summer in Indianapolis, a tent city under a bridge, and the criminalization of homelessness in the United States. Contact Rev. Patricia Benson at pbenson@chumduluth.org to host a showing in your neighborhood! Or register for free tickets with one of the showings scheduled in August. This program is an invitation for your community to engage your neighbors around concerns about encampments, unsheltered homelessness, and invites your ideas about solutions that work for our community. Responses are being collected in a document that will be shared in a town hall meeting with policy makers as we seek to address the housing crisis in our community. Your voice matters!

Use these QR codes to sign up to attend one of these film showings:

Wednesday, August 13, 6:00 pm,
Trinity Lutheran Church
1108 East Eighth Street, Duluth



Monday, August 18, 6:00 pm,
St. Andrew's by the Lake
2802 Minnesota Avenue, Duluth



Outreach Committee Update

At its quarterly meeting in June, the Outreach Committee unanimously approved the following grant requests from its \$10,965 balance for 2025:

- Damiano Center \$1,000
- Laundry Love \$1500
- Life House \$1,000
- Martin Luther King Day Breakfast Sponsorship \$500
- Rhubarb Festival Supplies up to \$150
- Safe Bay \$1,000
- Safe Haven \$1,000

The bake sale, held at the same time as the rummage sale, generated \$1,245 for general outreach, and the plant sale, a

month later, generated \$1,253 earmarked for Safe Bay. The committee will zero out its remaining balance (currently \$4,965) plus any added income by the end of the year.

The Outreach Committee encourages parishioners to complete a brief application form requesting funds for other outreach initiatives. The committee will accept requests on a rolling basis and consider them at its next quarterly meeting. To obtain a copy of the form, contact Zabelle Stodola on the Outreach Committee at kzstodola@ualr.edu

Outreach Committee meetings are open to all parishioners.

— Zabelle Stodola, for the Outreach Committee



Safe Haven Request for Personal Products

Every client who comes through the Shelter doors receives a little welcome bag with hygiene products, a towel, and other basic necessities to help them feel at home as they create space to heal from their trauma. These are products we are **always** in need of. The most needed items include ***new and unopened*** deodorant, full-size shampoo and conditioner, lotion, and hair care products for all hair types.

Please drop off items yourself at the Safe Haven Resource Center at 414 W. 1st Street.

— Carin Skoog, Director of Philanthropy at Safe Haven

Becoming Followers of Jesus

How do we respond to the test of “what would Jesus do?” We can measure our Christian response by this: “What did Jesus do?”

Jesus lived a public life, and while most of what he offered as teaching was demonstrated by his actions, he also left us stories in Scripture and the Holy Spirit to guide our lives. He also mostly taught in community, often speaking to small groups between preaching to the crowds. He encouraged questions and encouraged the folks who followed him and sought understanding and wisdom.

What does this look like in your life? Are you content with who you are as a follower of Jesus, or feel at least you are on healthy spiritual journey in the direction you want? Are you among companions on the journey, people who challenge your learning edges and support you to become ever more mature in your faith? Are you living intentionally? Do you have a personal Rule of Life, principles and practices you’ve chosen to guide how you spend your one wild and precious life?

Last fall I invited folks to join a small group to experience Practicing the Way, a program recommended by Bishop Craig Loya to live more fully into our Episcopal identity as “a Holy-Spirit led movement of Jesus-followers.” Twice a month we gathered around the table for a simple meal, deepened our relationship with each other, and participated in a teaching. The Practicing the Way course is designed to help get you started on the journey of spiritual formation, help you get unstuck if you’ve stalled out, or just guide you into taking your next step. Ultimately, its goal is to train you to live as an apprentice of Jesus: to be with Jesus, become like him, and do as he did.

We value our relationships so much that we decided to continue meeting as a small group, gathering around the

table or campfire, bringing a dish to share and taking turns hosting each other in our homes each month. We are journeying together as Jesus-followers.

This fall I will be starting another small group using this same course. We will meet for an hour and a half twice each month, beginning in October. I’m generally looking at the second and fourth Thursdays from 6-7:30 pm, but will adjust the schedule to meet the needs of participants (and holiday schedules). The course teaching is available in video format online, so if you need to miss a session you can easily catch up. In between sessions we work to develop the habit of the spiritual practice we discussed, as it meets our needs and fits our personality and capacity.

Please email me at Deacon@StPaulsDuluth.org if being with companions on the journey of a Holy Spirit-led life is calling to you! This is a great way to connect with our neighbors and know all God’s holy people.

Deacon Pat



“We have lived our lives by the assumption that what was good for us would be good for the world. We have been wrong. We must change our lives, so that it will be possible to live by the contrary assumption, that what is good for the world will be good for us. And that requires that we make the effort to know the world and learn what is good for it.”

Wendell Berry

Welcome Back Chum Quilters



A group of quilters meets at St. Paul’s to craft a beautiful quilt each year to be raffled off in support of the ministries of Chum. This year’s quilt is based on the artwork “Love is Here to Stay” by Jordan Sundberg at Tin Cup Design. With Asher Estrin-Haire’s assistance (Stitch Craft Quilt Factory), we will have a pattern and a selection of fabrics to send home for block construction. You can find the print at tincupdesignco.com -- enlarge it to identify colors. We are looking for fabrics (including prints) in these color families before we can begin work. Are you an accomplished quilter? Help us plan which fabrics to use with various pattern pieces! Strategizing will begin in August to prepare for a quilting bee after Labor Day, when sewing will begin! If you want to join us or have fabrics (100% cotton) to share, please contact Rev. Patricia Benson at pbenson@chumduluth.org.

Fall Happenings

Hi There!

I can't believe that it's time to write with September in mind. I've had a great summer, especially at ECMN youth camp. I had the pleasure of being a counselor this year, and was so happy to learn that although camp happens in a different place than it used to, camp totally still happens. There were 44 wonderful kids in grades 6-12 in attendance from around the state, from the Twin Cities to the far corners. When Matilda and I got there, we were both like a couple of cats getting out of the crate at the vet's office: cautious, unsure, and definitely disliked being in the car for so long! By the end of the week it was a different story. I saw new friendships form, songs learned and belted out, and kids delve into scripture in new ways. I found myself realizing that the magic of camp happens wherever it is as long as there are open and curious hearts, and generous leaders. I wholeheartedly recommend it and I can answer questions if you're interested in registering your child next year!

One of the best things that happened at camp was that I got to know Mark Olson, our friend from White Earth. He has visited St. Paul's a few times. When I was growing up, the best part of going to camp every summer was that it was close to Leech Lake and White Earth, and that people from the surrounding communities would come to teach and camp. Mark has been insistent on the invitation to visit, and it's something that I think would be fun, interesting, and meaningful. So, we're doing it! Folks of all ages are invited, and we will recruit youth, especially from confirmation. My hope is that it is the beginning of a relationship that goes two ways, and that we can host visitors in the spring or summer of 2026. Our visit is in the books for Friday through Sunday of MEA weekend. Cost is still to be determined, with assistance available, and there will be carpooling available. Mark has asked that anyone interested reads Where Wolves Don't Die by Anton Treuer in preparation. Copies have been ordered. Please stay tuned for updates about the trip, and signify your interest by emailing me (kids@stpaulsduluth.org) or Mark (olsonmark1966@gmail.com) with questions.

Here are some important dates you need to know for Youth Formation in the coming weeks.:

August 27—Last Beach Wednesday of the Summer. 5-7 pm at St. Andrew's on the Lake. Let's make it a good one, rain or shine!

September 7—Acolyte Training and Lunch after the 10 am service. Please contact Holly Hansen or me if you have questions or an interested child that hasn't been tapped yet! Aco-

lyte ministry is open to all students in grades six and up; the commitment is approximately once per month.

September 14—Rally Day! This Sunday kicks off the programming year for kids. We will have lunch after the 10 am service, formation information, games, and a bouncy house!

September 17—Wednesday programming begins with 6 pm dinner, forums for adults, and Confirmation Class from 6:30-7:30 pm.

Classes will continue to be every other week, but kids in grades 6-12 are now invited to come every Wednesday at this time for drop in study/arts and crafts time-and a chance just to hang out and talk.

September 21—Godly Play begins for kids PreK through 5th grade.

October 5—Blessing of the Pets takes place at a special 2 pm outdoor service.

October 17-19—MEA weekend visit to White Earth.

Please look for more specific information in the coming weeks about your formation offerings for your children. I have been missing the kids around St. Paul's this summer and can't wait to see them!

I hope you are enjoying this beautiful season.

Peace to you,

*Sophie Gray Spehar,
Faith Formation Coordinator*



Beach Night

Wednesday,
August 27
5:00–7:00 PM



ON THE BEACH BEHIND ST. ANDREW'S BY THE
LAKE: 2802 MINNESOTA AVE, DULUTH

From Your Bookkeeper

Dear Parishioners,

Your second quarter Giving Statements were emailed to you on July 1, 2025. Please check through your inbox and spam folders carefully to locate your statement.

June 2025 financials were presented to the Finance Committee and Vestry via email in July. Here is a summary of the June General Operating Fund results.

MONTHLY FIGURES: June	This Month	Year-to-Date
Total Pledges collected	\$20,854.58	\$211,901.74
Total non-pledged collection	\$3,636.05	\$42,689.70
Investment support	\$12,104.44	\$48,177.47
Total Income	\$36,595.07	\$302,768.91
Total Expenses	\$40,446.27	\$293,170.86
Amount over/(short)	(\$3,851.20)	\$9,598.05

*The pledge collection amount for June was under the budgeted amount.

*Expenses were over \$7800 under budget for the month of June, and \$15,600 Year-to-date.

*Our bottom line, income over expenses, for June was a deficit of \$3,851.20.

*Year to date we have a surplus of \$9,598.05.

*Year to date we have a surplus of \$19,221.80.

If you have any questions, please call my office or email me at bookkeeper@stpaulsduluth.org.

Christine Melone, Bookkeeper



Acolyte Ministry

Please consider becoming a St. Paul's Acolyte!

Our acolyte teens are an integral part of church service at St. Paul's and we thank them for giving back to the church that has helped shape them! We ask families of students in grades 6 – 12 (or even college students staying in town) to consider this service as the church is in need of participants in this ministry. Students must be able to light and extinguish candles before and after services, and hold sizable candles (not too heavy) while walking down the aisle at church, while the head acolytes will carry the tall and heavier cross. If your student is interested in getting involved in this vital ministry, **please contact Holly Hansen at hlhansen13@gmail.com or 218-310-1674 by August 31.**

There will be a **brief acolyte training, with a lunch sponsored by Terry Roberts, after the 10 am service on Sunday, September 7**, to go over training basics, distribute manuals, and undertake robe fittings for new and growing acolytes. Thank you!

Respectfully submitted,

*Holly Hansen,
Acolyte Coordinator*



Lost Treasures From The Archives

This item was published in Duluth newspapers on September 18, 1869.

PARLOR Recitations and a Musical Entertainment will be given at the New Hotel Hall on Thursday evening next, the proceeds of which will go for the benefit of the Episcopal Church of Duluth. The Programme of the occasion will be as follows:

Overture—Opening Address—Piano Solo—Song—The beautiful Parlor Drama entitled "Mrs. Willis' Will," and which will be a very interesting feature of the entertainment—Violin Solo—Song. The Proverb entitled "There is no Rose without Thorns" with a full cast of characters will close the performance.

The price of admission has been fixed at One Dollar and Tickets can be secured at Trumbull's Drug Store, on Superior Street, or of either member of the Committee of Arrangements which consists of Messrs. Lasher, Stoue, Hoyt, Collins, Ingalls, Stuntz, Gillett, Saxton, Hussey, Burko and Sargent.

For accommodation of residents of that City, a Steamer will leave Superior at 6 o'clock, and returning leave Duluth immediately after the close of the entertainment.



Laundry Love Help Needed

Tuesday, August 12, 8:15 –11:30 am

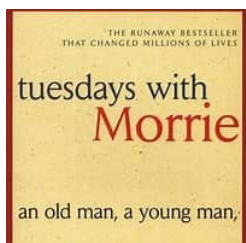
Tuesday, September 9, 8:15 –11:30 am

Tuesday, October 14, 8:15 –11:30 am

St. Paul's helps folks launder their clothing free of charge at Spin City Laundry, 232 Central Ave, Duluth. Contact Carol Andrews or Lara Hill if you are interested in learning more about this program. To sign up to be a volunteer, visit this Sign Up Genius link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C054AA9A62DA7FC1-54109643-laundry#/>

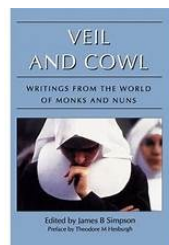
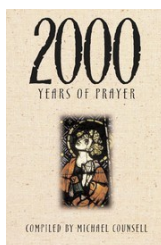
New Additions to the Olcott Library

Here are some new titles you may find in the Olcott Library:



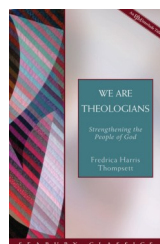
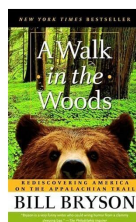
Tuesdays with Morrie by Mitch Albom. During a series of visits the author and his former professor reconnect during the professor's final months of life. They discuss everything from greed and forgiveness to death and a meaningful life.

Two Thousand Years of Prayer compiled by Michael Counsel. A collection of prayers from every Christian tradition and age beginning with the first four Christian centuries and continuing through the twentieth.



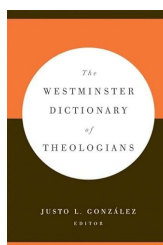
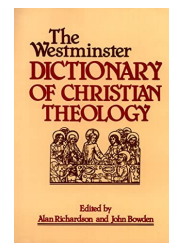
Veil and Cowl: Writings from the World of Monks and Nuns edited by James B. Simpson. The writings reveal the mystique of lives given totally to God.

A Walk in the Woods by Bill Bryson. A memoir about the author's 2,100-mile hike on the Appalachian Trail describing the beautiful but fragile trail and its history as well as some of the hilarious encounters he had with his fellow hikers.



We Are Theologians by Fredrica Harris Thompsett. A short overview of the history, theology, spirituality, and biblical foundation of the Episcopal Church.

The Westminster Dictionary of Christian Theology edited by Alan Richardson and John Bowden. A guide to the language of Christian theology.



The Westminster Dictionary of Theologians edited by Justo L. Gonzalez. Contains coverage of important theological and religious figures, representing the Eastern Orthodox, as well as Catholic, Protestant and Pentecostal traditions from a global perspective.

Respectfully submitted,
Faye Witt



July 9, 2025

Outreach Ministries
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
1710 E Superior St
Duluth, MN 55812

Dear friends at St. Paul's Episcopal,

Thank you so much for your generous \$1,000 gift to Safe Haven, to be put toward our area of greatest need. Your continued support means the world to us, and helps provide hope and healing to survivors each and every day.

From the moment someone picks up the phone to make what may be the hardest and most important call of their life, to their time in shelter with us-- as well as the legal advocacy, self-sufficiency support and space to heal-- Safe Haven's advocates are with them every step of the way. And it is your support that makes this possible.

Safe Haven has been serving a seven-county region of northern Minnesota for 47 years strong, and our comprehensive services are saving lives. Please, feel free to reach out to us at any time with questions or suggestions on how to broaden our reach in the northland. Together, we are making a difference!

Warmly and with gratitude,

Carin Skoog
Director of Philanthropy
218-730-2468
carin@safehavenshelter.org

*We can't thank
you enough!*

Here are a few of the lovely notes of
gratitude received by St. Paul's this year
for our support of these ministries
throughout Duluth.



July 8, 2025

1710 E Superior St
Duluth, MN 55812-1641

Dear St. Paul's Episcopal Church,

Thank you for the generous gift of \$1,000.00 to the Damiano Center! Your support is crucial to serving the most vulnerable in our community. Each day, hundreds of people visit Damiano seeking to have their most basic needs met.

Because of you, Damiano can offer nutritious meals to the hungry; dinner, activities, and a safe space for children; free apparel, hygiene items, a hot shower, and connections to community resources for our neighbors in need; and so much more. Together, we are able to offer a safe, accepting, and dignified space for those who struggle.

Thank you for partnering with us to strengthen our community by providing for the most vulnerable among us. We could not do this important work without you.

Gratefully,

Seth Currier
Executive Director
The Damiano Center

*Dear St. Paul's Community,
Thank you so much
for your generosity
and partnership!
Seth*

As directed, your gift of \$1,000.00 has been designated to support the General Fund. No goods or services were provided to you in return for your gift. Therefore, within the limits prescribed by law, the full amount of your gift is deductible for Federal income tax purposes.

The Damiano Center's tax ID number is 41-1453521. Please retain this receipt for your records.



July 11, 2025

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
1710 E Superior St
Duluth, MN 55812-2089

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your generous contribution to our mission of helping youth reconnect with their dreams. Your support plays a vital role in shaping both our community and our nation's future.

Life House provides a range of comprehensive services, including our Drop-in Youth Center, Housing Program, Mental Health and Wellness team, and Futures Education and Employment program.

Your gift of \$1,000.00 received on 7/11/2025 has a meaningful impact on the work we do with youth. With your contribution, Life House can provide unconditional support to teens, young adults, and young families as they work toward achieving their goals.

We are grateful for your support!

Warmly,

Sophie Clock
Community Impact Director, Life House
sophie.clock@life-house.org
(218) 722-7431 ext. 151

Capital Campaign Update: Parish Wide Survey Results

The capital campaign steering committee was recently briefed by the Rev. Pete Reuss, our GSB consultant, on the results of the parish-wide survey conducted May 18-June 1. The survey served as a pre-campaign feasibility study to let us know how the parish is responding to our efforts to share information, clearly convey the capital needs for the church, and get a sense of our ability to raise sufficient funds to address them – fully or, if necessary, a modified project list that reflects the congregation's priorities.

Thank you! We are grateful to everyone who participated! Our consultant assured us that the number of completed surveys (over 100 households, plus 12 in-person interviews) was a significant turnout, and that we can feel confident that the responses are representative of the congregation.

This comprehensive survey gave us a lot of insights into more than just “how much do we think we can raise for projects?” For instance, an overwhelming majority of respondents expressed great confidence in St. Paul's staff, vestry, and ministries. There was strong agreement that a capital campaign is needed, and the projects proposed are necessary. The most important projects, as ranked in the surveys, were elevator access, building tuckpointing, and the organ. Comments about the interior sanctuary repairs, while considered important, suggested that this project was viewed as more cosmetic and not structural, therefore less urgent (but that did

not mean they did not want it completed). Similarly, the heating system upgrades were also considered important, but were generally ranked lower than the elevator, tuckpointing, and organ repair. People recognized that raising \$2.6 million would be a major stretch, but not impossible.

The steering committee will soon be sharing more specific information with the parish about how we structure our fundraising goals for maximum success. One unexpected result was the high number of people who would consider including St. Paul's in their estate. According to our consultant, this response was a markedly different result when compared to most other churches.

The pre-campaign survey revealed a common love for the ministry of St. Paul's, trust in parish leadership, and a belief that the projects are worthwhile. These are excellent indicators for the steering team to rely upon in moving forward with a campaign. Over the summer, be assured that we already have small teams actively working on specific aspects of the campaign, preparing us for a “launch” in the fall. And as always, please feel free to reach out to your campaign co-chairs if you have any questions or concerns!

Yours in Christ,
Nancy Schuldt and Sherry Hall

Email Safety Tips

We have recently noticed an increase of fake/spam emails going out to congregation members that appear to be from St. Paul's staff members.

Below are some tips from a friend named Carl Larson, Media/IT Specialist at Augustana Lutheran Church, on how to identify and report a fake email:

- If an email has an unidentified or vague request, it is fake.
- If the email does not come from an “@stpaulsduluth.org” address, it is fake. **Emails from St. Paul's staff will only be from “@stpaulsduluth.org” addresses.** We do not use .com, .net, or any other domain.
- If the sender is specific about how you respond, like only replying via email, it is fake.
- If you cannot tell if an email is fake, do not respond to it, **call the church at 218-724-3535** to talk to the person who might have sent the message.

Should you receive an email from anyone that seems suspicious, immediately report as spam/junk and block contact. Delete the email if it remains.



Respectfully submitted,
Rita Rosenberger

LAY MINISTRY SCHEDULE – AUGUST 2025

Please find a sub if you are unavailable for your scheduled date.

	August 3	August 10	August 17	August 24	August 31
ALTAR GUILD	K Leonard	C Conrad	C Miller	D Kolquist	C Miller
	S Cox	S Hall	L Hultkrantz	S M Anderson	L Hultkrantz
	M Malone	A Sadowski		S Sommer	
		K Timmerman		T Jansen	
		L Kania			
LECTOR 8 am	M Gustafson	A MacKenzie	J Pastor	M Gustafson	A MacKenzie
LECTOR 10 am	K Smith	Z Stodola	N Diener	J Pastor	S Sommer
PRAYER LEADER	H Hansen	J Groth	O Morin-Swanson	A Sundberg	J Keto
VERGER	K Smith	K Smith	K Smith	K Smith	K Smith
CHALICE	S Anderson	Z Stodola	K Baumgarten	N Diener	S Sommer
BEARERS	K Smith	N Constance	N Diener	J Pastor	K Smith
ACOLYTE	E Barthel	E Erspamer	T Halverson	C Gustafson	J Shambour
LIVESTREAM	J Austin	D Barthel	G French	N French	J Austin
COFFEE HOST	N Constance	Erspamer Family	SM Anderson and N Constance	H Schreck and M Hirman	R Hauschildt
USHERS	J Sontag	G Olson	N Schuldt	M Brown	D Morin
	G Olson	P Waite	J Ransom	S Brown	K Swanson
	N Schuldt	M Gustafson	W Tabory	D Kolquist	J Sontag
		R Lyle			
LOCK UP	D Pederson	B Stapp	S G Spehar	M Brown	T Diener

August 2025 Office Hours

8:30 am - 1:30 pm

Monday through Thursday

Other Altar Guild Duties for August

August Linens:

L Hultkrantz, A Sadowski

Bread-Baking:

A Rouse



St. Paul's Episcopal Church
1710 E. Superior St.
Duluth, MN 55812

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To receive an electronic copy of the newsletter, email us at office@stpaulsduluth.org or call 218-724-3535

Visit our website:
www.stpaulsduluth.org

Jefferson Street Block Party

**Saturday, August 23,
2:00 –5:00 pm**

St. Paul's will continue our tradition of offering root beer floats to celebrate community with our neighborhood.

Deacon Pat is looking for volunteers to help scoop ice cream, pour root beer, and get better acquainted with our neighbors! Sign up with an email to Deacon@StPaulsDuluth.org

