

THE MESSENGER

NOVEMBER 2025

From Your Rector



Dear Friends of St. Paul's,

October has been a full and wonderful month here at your church. The Building Our Legacy campaign is well underway. In late September, the Inspiration team organized home visits and gifts for every single household on our local roster. Baked goods, jam, and a storybook made their

way to everyone through a friendly face. Howard Anderson returned to St. Paul's to preach, and it was a great honor for me to get to celebrate Eucharist with him. His sermon was powerful, and you can find it on our livestream archive for October 12.

Over MEA (October 17 – 19), our confirmands, some of their families, and interested leaders took a cross-cultural learning trip to the White Earth Nation. They visited St. Columba's mission and Enmegahbowh's final resting place, learned about tribal government, and practiced talking circles. This experience was powerful for all who were involved, and I am sure you'll be hearing more from our students about it soon. This group of confirmands is developing strong leadership skills and I am impressed with how they are inquiring about faith for themselves. If you have a chance, please ask Anna, Ellie, Jack, Mattie, Olivia, Jackson, or Luca about their experience.

What I have noticed over the last month is the growth of our capacity to lead and accomplish difficult things together. It's more than just mobilizing to meet an ambitious financial goal in a capital campaign. We are making personal contact with folks we haven't

seen in a long time. We are deepening friendships within the congregation. We are learning together how to mobilize to do complex things. New lay leaders are stepping up and accomplishing team efforts. Our students are traveling, learning and taking up leadership roles of their own.

We won't know the results of the Building our Legacy campaign until mid-November. However, I already count this campaign a wild success, because I see disciples and leaders forming in every corner of the church. The wider world this fall has felt like one crisis after another, and there are so many people hurting and hungry both near and far. I won't deny that truth, since it is certainly close to us all the time. It is unacceptable for the Christian to be silent or unaffected by the hunger and pain of our neighbors. The leaders and disciples we are raising up now may be the leaders for our response to this pain. The capacity we are building now is critical to effectively organizing for the kinds of healing ministries that Jesus calls us to. For that, I am deeply grateful. Thank you to all of you who have had a hand in the work we have done over the last few months. I pray that the Holy Spirit continues to empower you to grow in our ministry together.

Peace,
Maggie

Who's Who in our Capital Campaign?

Below is a list of the leaders of various teams putting on the Building Our Legacy campaign. If you have questions regarding a part of the campaign, please reach out to one of the team leaders.

Rector

Maggie Nancarrow rector@stpaulsduluth.org

Guides vision and preaches about the campaign, invites early giving during the quiet phase through personal conversations

Campaign Chairs

Nancy Schuldt ncosta2799@charter.net

and Sherry Hall marysharonhall@gmail.com

Responsible for the over-arching management of the campaign, speaking about the vision, and ensuring the success of the teams

Campaign Warden

Tom Elliott elliottt793@gmail.com

As interim property chair and junior warden, Tom is the Vestry warden most involved in the campaign. He has helped with Response team and project cost estimates.

Pete Reuss and Paul Walters

GSB Consulting

Pete and Paul are our consultants helping us organize the campaign. They have been working closely with our team leaders, preparing our graphic materials, and giving the campaign clear structure.

Inspiration Team

Chair: John Pastor jpastor@d.umn.edu

Responsible for:

- Gift Bags delivered on September 28
- St. Paul's Story Booklet
- Campaign Prayer
- Prayer Vigil

Information Team

Chair: Tamara Jansen tamarabainjansen@gmail.com

Responsible for:

- Print materials and production of campaign prospectus
- Social Media Support
- Bulletin Inserts each week

Special Events Team

Chair: Charles Sundquist charles.sundquist@gmail.com

Responsible for:

- Hospitality for campaign volunteers
- Leadership Event
- All-Parish Event

Response Team

Chair: Jay Austin jaustin@d.umn.edu

Responsible for:

- Planning for Early Gifts in the Quiet Phase
- Following up with households after the close of the campaign
- Supporting thank you efforts

An Important Note About Annual Giving 2026

This year, you will be invited to make two pledges through a special **Statement of Intent** card. One will be a one-year commitment for the annual ministry of the parish for 2026. The other will be a three-year commitment for capital improvements.

Our annual needs have not changed dramatically over the last year. Our annual fundraising goal for 2026 is \$400,000. We hope you will consider a modest increase to your annual pledge, to help us continue to do our ministry here at St. Paul's.

Commitment Sunday



Sunday, November 9: Building Our Legacy Campaign Commitment Sunday

After we have heard the words of our members, shared our own stories, and learned about the needs facing the parish, **all are asked to**

return commitment cards for both the capital campaign and the annual campaign. We will have extra pledge cards available in the pews that day.

Wednesday Forums in the Fall Supper at 6 | Forum at 6:30 pm

Please join us at 5:15 pm for Wednesday Eucharist

Our Faithful Ancestors: Saints For Our Times

1st & 3rd Wednesdays | Service Projects Hosted by Sophie Spehar on the 5th Wednesday

Wednesday Forums in the Fall of 2025 will focus on saints in the Episcopal Church. In the Episcopal Church, we honor special holy people who served God and others in remarkable ways. We celebrate some of the popular traditional saints, such as Francis, Hildegard, and Ignatius. However, we have also added important faith leaders in modern times to our calendar of observances, like Pauli Murray, Deitrich Bonhoeffer, and Enmegahbowh. This year our Wednesday forums will feature saints that we don't always celebrate on Sundays, while exploring how their example can lead us for our current times. If you have a favorite quirky or unsung saint and would like to participate, please reach out to Maggie at rector@stpaulsduluth.org

November 5: Witnesses in Tyranny — Oscar Romero, Deitrich Bonhoeffer and more

Deitrich Bonhoeffer was a Lutheran who famously stood up to the Nazi Regime in Germany, and wrote powerful theology about why this was the Christian's duty. Oscar Romero was a Catholic priest who spoke out against the injustice and violence plaguing El Salvador during a brutal civil war. He was assassinated while presiding at Mass in 1980.

November 19: Kamehameha and Emma

Kamehameha and Emma are saints who ruled as king and queen of Hawaii from 1855 to 1864. Their reign was devoted to good works, building hospitals, and they invited the establishment of the Anglican church in Hawaii. Their people had been severely impacted by a smallpox epidemic before their rule, and they chose to rule with grace and attention to the needs of their people. This interesting story from Hawaii's time as a sovereign nation is an often lost story in the Episcopal Church. Mary Calantoc will be cooking a Hawaiian-style meal for us that evening as well.

December 3: St. Nicholas of Myra

St. Nicholas of Myra is a beloved saint who cared for children. His legendary works to help children in his community became the foundation of the Santa Claus story. ***This program will be geared towards an inter-generational audience with activities for both children and adults.***



December 17: St. Lucy

St. Lucy is another beloved saint of Advent and the preparation for Christmas. We will learn about what we actually know about her, Advent traditions that developed around her, and why she matters to us today. *Do you have family traditions associated with St. Lucy's day? Please reach out to Maggie, because we would love to have you participate in planning this gathering.*

From Deacon Pat



Safe Bay and Laundry Love are among the "Mutual Aid" projects highlighted in artist Carolyn Olson's new exhibit that opens at Zeitgeist in November! She also has works celebrating some of our community partners like Loaves and Fishes and Harm Reduction Sisters. Opening reception is November 5, 5-7 pm. Carolyn Olson is a Duluth artist whose works include paintings, sculpture, drawings, and prints.



Thanksgiving Services in Support of Chum

You can choose from two services on **Tuesday, November 25** to celebrate and support Chum! A group of West Duluth churches are joining together at **6:00 pm at Norton Park United Methodist Church** (436 N 79th Ave W, Duluth) to share gratitude, followed by a reception and packing brown bag breakfasts to share with guests staying at the Warming Shelter. On the East side, you are invited to come at **7:00 pm at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church** (219 N 6th Ave E, Duluth) to experience reflections on gratitude in word and music, where the offering plate will be passed to support our shared ministries to our neighbors at Chum.



The Rev. Deacon Patricia Benson
Office: 218-438-5501
Cell: 218-206-5349

Another Way

Teach us the courage, O God,
To turn from what seems so natural, so safe:
the way of grasping power,
and befriending the powerful,
in the hope of protection and security.

Teach us the humility, O God,
to turn from what is so enticing, so persuasive:
the way of accumulating things,
and trusting in wealth,
in the hope of comfort and life.

Lead us, O God, in another way,
the way of caring for the neglected,
feeding the hungry,
housing the homeless,
protecting the threatened,
and challenging the powerful,
the foolish way of the Gospel,
that brings salvation to all.

Amen.

Lead us, O God, in another way,
the way of true security, true wealth,
the way of Christ, the servant,
the way of weakness and simplicity.

John van de Laar

Notes of a Different Kind

We live in a world, for better or worse, where we are inundated with sound and visual stimulation. I was in a local restaurant recently, and I think I counted 34 television screens. What I found most distressing was that I couldn't not look at them. I really wanted to pay attention to the people who were there with me, but my eyes were drawn to the screen showing a sporting event that didn't even interest me. (In other words, the Vikings weren't one of the teams playing.) With that many screens in the room, no one needed to agree what to watch. It was an "everyone for themselves" free-for-all that I found quite unsettling.

Worship is different. When we gather as a community of faith, we are there for one purpose and that is to glorify God as the one who created and redeemed us in love and sends us forth to show that love to the wider world. We may be drawn to come to church for different reasons: to see friends, because we're looking for relief from hurt, to give thanks, to find peace, but the liturgy proclaims and embraces all those things and more. It is where we all become one in the wide embrace of God. Noted liturgical theologian Gordon Lathrop describes liturgy as "kingdom play," where we, for a short time, imagine what the reign of God looks like. In that kingdom, all are welcome, and all are loved without reserve. It is why we sing and eat and pray and praise together. God cuts through all the noise of our daily lives to assure us that grace abounds in and through us.

As you enter worship, use the transition time to prepare yourself for the immensity of God's love for you. The prelude music is there to help you transition from the noise of the world and into the quietness of God's love. Use it to release your anxieties into God's care so you can more clearly hear and understand what God is doing in your life and the world around you.



Peace,

*Tom Hamilton,
Minister of Music*

NEW THIS SPRING: ST. PAUL'S ART SHOW

This year the Confirmation Class is holding an art show on May 24 to showcase their own projects as well as art from the congregation. If you would like to showcase your art of any kind, written, visual, or performing, please contact us by April 1, by filling out the Google form. Please reach out to Sophie or the Confirmation Class if you have any questions. You can also reach us through the following email: joanneerspamer@gmail.com

Please use this QR code to fill out the Google form.

*Submitted by Anna Keto,
on behalf of the Confirmation
Class*



Diocesan Convention 2025

Please pray for the gathering of our diocese in Rochester on November 14 – 16. St. Paul's is sending three clergy delegates and five lay delegates. They are: the Rev. Maggie Nancarrow, the V. Rev. Rick Swenson, the Rev. Deacon Patricia Benson, John Pastor, Nancy Diener (Senior Warden), Jill Peterman, Natalie Constance, and Sherry Hall. Our alternate delegate is Rebecca Ballou-Buck. One of our lay members is up for election to be a lay delegate to General Convention in 2027: Olivia Morin-Swanson.

The Giving Tree



Help us spread God's love to our neighbors by purchasing a new gift for the folks at Loaves & Fishes in our neighborhood, or for the youth at Life House, or for the women and children at Safe Haven Shelter and Resource Center. A tree will be located by the elevator on the second floor starting before Thanksgiving, with tags describing a desired toy or gift. Please select one of these special tags, purchase the gift requested and return it unwrapped, with the tag attached, by **Monday, December 8**. (If you'd like to put the item in a gift bag that is fine.) We will accept any type of nonviolent toy for infants through teens. A great gift idea for teens are gift cards to local stores. If you have questions, please contact Val Groth or Susan M. Anderson. Thank you!

Deadline to submit items for the December issue of *The Messenger* is
8:00 am, Wednesday, November 19, 2025.

Please email items to:

office@stpaulsduluth.org

Yoga at St. Paul's

Thursdays, 5:30 pm,
in St. Paul's Carriage House

Yoga is for EVERY BODY! This is a beginner class but ALL are welcome. Colette Scheall, a longtime friend of St. Paul's, is the instructor.

Gentle Hatha Yoga, \$13 per class — please bring a mat for class.

The Carriage House is next door to church, toward 18th Avenue East. It has its own parking lot, accessed from Superior Street. No stairs, no long walks. This is a wonderful space with natural sunlight! Please try it!



From Your Bookkeeper

Dear Parishioners,

Your third quarter Giving Statements are being emailed to you on October 6, 2025. Please check through your inbox and spam folders carefully to locate your statement.

September 2025 financials were presented to the Finance Committee and Vestry at their October meetings. Below is a summary of the August General Operating Fund results.



MONTHLY FIGURES: August	This Month	Year-to-Date
Total Pledges collected	\$28,981.09	\$292,395.41
Total non-pledged collection	\$2,474.15	\$51,355.55
Investment support	\$7,116.87	\$69,828.08
Total Income	\$38,572.11	\$413,579.04
Total Expenses	\$45,201.89	\$436,591.76
Amount over/(short)	(\$6,629.78)	(\$23,012.72)

*The pledge collection amount for September was \$3,485.00 under the budgeted amount.

*Expenses were \$216.00 over budget for the month of September, and \$12,910.00 under budgeted levels year-to-date.

*Our bottom line, income over expenses, for September, was a deficit of \$6,629.78

*Year-to-date we have a deficit of \$23,012.72.

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

Christine Melone, Bookkeeper

Outreach Committee News

At its fall quarterly meeting, the Outreach Committee approved the following grants:

- \$1,000 to Program for Aid to Victims of Sexual Assault (PAVSA)
- \$1,000 to Loaves and Fishes
- \$400 to St Francis Apartments
- \$350 to the Steve O'Neil Family Childhood Education Program
- \$200 to the St Louis County Rescue Squad

At its winter quarterly meeting in November, the Outreach

Committee will disburse the remainder of its 2025 budget (\$3,850). We invite people to submit grant requests to use these funds. Contact Zabelle Stodola for details, kzstodola@ualr.edu

Respectfully submitted by Zabelle Stodola,
for the Outreach Committee



Fall News from Faith Formation

Hi there!

It's been a wonderful month. Last weekend I went with 16 members of our congregation on a visit to the White Earth Reservation. We visited the Creator's Place, a workshop in Pine Point that focuses on building skills, community, and art for Native people. Then we stopped at Breck mission church and learned about the history of Episcopal Churches on White Earth. Then we visited tribal headquarters and learned about how resources are managed and governed, admiring the gigantic wild rice harvest housed there as well as the art on display. We had great discussions with elders, and spent hours intently listening to their stories. The next day, we visited St. Columba's Episcopal. We visited the grave where St. Enmegahbowh is resting and practiced singing a few songs from the Ojibwe Hymnal. We visited the treaty rights museum in Park Rapids, which houses a lot of really interesting first-hand accounts, as well as some awe-inspiring original paintings by Rabbett Before Horses. The trip was intense, beautiful, and healing. The six confirmands who attended were exemplary ambassadors and immersed themselves in their surroundings. I am so proud of these kids, and am thankful for all the adults who worked to make this trip a huge success. I am looking forward to strengthening ties with our neighbors on White Earth. (see photos on p. 9)

Welcome and thank you to Jordan Sundberg! Jordan has stepped into a lead volunteer role for the Godly Play department of youth ministry, and has been a great help keeping spaces and volunteers organized. We have been having a great fall! Maybe the most exciting news of all is that we're launching a monthly kids coffee hour! We'll have special kids treats and fun activities in the Children's Room in the basement. The first kid coffee hour will be on November 16 after the 10 am service, and your child is invited! The **Godly Play** stories for this month:

- November 2: David
- November 9: The Exile and Return
- November 16: The Prophets
- November 23: The Prophet Jonah
- November 30: How the Church Tells Time

Middle Schoolers are meeting every other week after church this fall. We start with a centering prayer, life check-

in, learn about a Holy Troublemaker or Saint, talk about what's on our minds and hearts, and eat! Lunch will be provided, and there will be a treat or two to sweeten the deal. Please send your middle schoolers to the Faith Formation office on first floor right after service, and we'll hang out until noon. Dates: Sundays, November 9 and 23, December 7 and 21.



Confirmation has exciting things brewing. We meet at 6:30 pm after supper on Wednesday, November 5 and 19, and December 3.

Advent Wreath-Making will be Sunday, November 30, after the 10 am service. My family loves lighting a candle for the week on Sunday evenings. It provides a warm reminder of the stories and journeys leading to Christmas. Each household can assemble and decorate a wreath to take home. If you have a wreath frame from years past, you are encouraged to bring it to church — they can definitely be reused! We'll have the tools, boughs, ribbons and branches ready. This activity should take about an hour, and will take place in the Parish Hall. If you'd like to volunteer to help or would like to contribute some supplies, please email me: kids@stpaulsduluth.org

Lastly, a BIG thank-you to **Tom Diener**, who recently donated many of his beautiful handmade wooden labyrinths to St. Paul's. Please look for the "Labyrinth Library" as you enter the church. These handheld labyrinths are available for young and old to use during the service. Tracing your fingers along the path is centering and helps anyone who likes to keep their hands moving during worship.

I hope you and your have been well during this busy season! I look forward to seeing you at the Aquarium on November 2.

Peace to you,
Sophie Gray Spehar,
Faith Formation Coordinator

Sign up to help serve a Wednesday Night Meal!
USE THIS LINK:

<https://stpaulsduluth.org/sign-up/>

Scenes From Our Trip to White Earth

1



2



3



4



1. The group outside of the Creator's Place in Pine Point
2. Having a moment of quiet visiting Enmegahbowh's resting place at St. Columba's
3. The group after church on Sunday at St. Columba's — Eliana and Jack did the readings!
4. Investigating bags of wild rice (Mahnomen) harvested locally at Tribal Headquarters
5. The Breck Memorial Mission Church in Pine Point

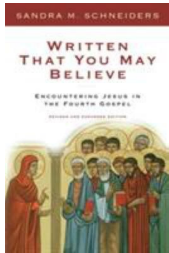
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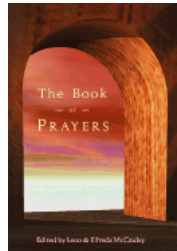
From the Olcott Library

Here are some of the books that have been recently added to the Olcott Library:

The Agile Church: Spirit-Led Innovation in an Uncertain Age by Dwight J. Zscheile. Priest and scholar Zscheile takes one page from the Bible and another from Silicon Valley to help churches to become more innovative and more faithful. This book picks up where his previous book, People of the Way: Renewing Episcopal Identity left off.

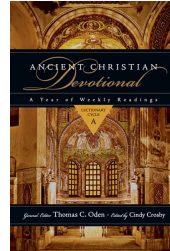
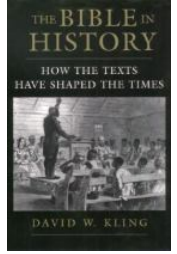


Written that You May Believe: Encountering Jesus in the Fourth Gospel by Sandra M. Schneiders. A prominent Scripture scholar opens the riches of the Gospel of John, revealing the profound spiritual vision offered to every reader.



The Book of Prayers edited by Leon and Elfreda McCauley. An interdenominational book of prayers for everyday life.

The Bible in History: How the Texts have Shaped the Times by David W. Kling. The author takes eight specific texts and shows how each has been interpreted through history and across cultures at crucial times from the origin of monasticism, Martin Luther's search for a gracious god, the African American experience to the ordination of women.



Ancient Christian Devotional edited by Thomas C. Oden. A year of weekly readings. Each reading includes a simple opening, closing prayers and reflections drawn from the prayers and hymns of the ancient church.

Respectfully submitted,
Faye Witt, Librarian

Lost Treasures from the Archives

This was published in the Duluth News-Tribune on November 17, 1912.

FOR CHRISTMAS SALE.

Circle No. 8 of St. Paul's Episcopal church will meet Tuesday afternoon at 2 o'clock with Mrs. A. J. Olcott, 2314 East Fifth street. As this is the last meeting of the circle before the Christmas sale it is desired that all members be present.

Respectfully submitted,
Bob Silverness, Archivist

Editor's Note: Notice the address for Mrs. Olcott — it is the same house where Bob & Jeanne Sederberg lived until their passing!

Other Altar Guild Duties for November

November Linens:

A Sadowski, C Conrad

Bread-Baking:

M Dragich

LAY MINISTRY SCHEDULE – NOVEMBER 2025

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

	November 2	November 9	November 16	November 23	November 30	December 7
ALTAR GUILD	K Leonard	C Conrad	C Miller	D Kolquist	D Kolquist	K Leonard
	S Cox	S Hall	L Hultkrantz	S M Anderson	S M Anderson	S Cox
	M Malone	A Sadowski		S Sommer	S Sommer	M Malone
		K Timmerman		T Jansen	T Jansen	
		L Kania				
LECTOR 8 am	F Witt	A Mackenzie	J Pastor	M Gustafson	J Pastor	
LECTORS 10 am	N Constance	M Gustafson	S Sommer	K Smith	N Constance	
	Z Stodola	J Pastor	A Harrington	Z Stodola	N Diener	
PRAYER LEADER	J Groth	H Hansen	A Sundberg	L Brunfelt	K Smith	
VERGER	K Smith	K Smith	J Pastor	K Smith	K Smith	
CHALICE	N Constance	M Gustafson	S Sommer	K Smith	N Constance	
BEARERS	Z Stodola	J Pastor	N Constance	Z Stodola	K Baumgarten	
	K Smith	S Anderson	K Baumgarten	J Pastor	S Anderson	
	J Pastor	N Diener				
ACOLYTES	J Shambour (H)	J Sadowski (H)	E Erspamer (H)	J Shambour (H)	A Keto (H)	J Sadowski (H)
	T Halverson	E Erspamer	C Gustafson	R Wall	S Keto	S Peterson
	S Peterson	H Buck	S Sundberg	Q Wall	M Spehar	T Halverson
LIVESTREAM	J Austin	D Barthel	C Meehan	N French	D Barthel	J Austin
NURSERY	A Rennan	A Rennan	A Rennan	A Rennan	A Rennan	A Rennan
	E Erspamer	Y Quinn-Sikorski	J Schreck	E Erspamer	Y Quinn-Sikorski	E Erspamer
COFFEE HOST	S M Anderson and N Constance	B & M Mintner	R Hauschildt	W Copeland & M Chilson	B & K Silverness	M & C Bauer
USHERS	G Olson	N Schuldt	M Brown	D Morin	G Olson	N Schuldt
	P Waite	W Tabory	S Brown	K Swanson	P Waite	W Tabory
	M Gustafson	J Wall	D Kolquist	J Sontag	M Gustafson	J Wall
	R Lyle		R Silverness	H Schreck	R Lyle	
LOCK UP	B Stapp	S Spehar	M Brown	T Diener	J Austin	D Pederson



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Visit our website:
www.stpaulsduluth.org

All Saints Day

Sunday, November 2, 10:00 am

A Parade of Saints

On All Saints Sunday, November 2, all children and youth are invited to dress as a Saint or bring a symbolic object to carry in honor of All Saints Day. They can "parade" during the procession at the beginning of the 10 am service before dismissal for Children's Church. Below is a list of Episcopal Saints, and their feast Days. An easy way to decide who to dress as would be to find a Saint closest to your birthday.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Calendar_of_the_Church_Year



And we will read the names of all those who have died since last All Saints Day, and you are invited to come forward and place a carnation provided by the Altar Guild into the vase when you hear the name of your loved one.