

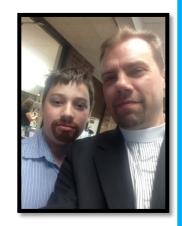
Messenger

The newsletter of First Saint Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Some **Highlights** from Sunday School's End of Year Celebration

















Join us for the Summer Sunday School kickoff!

June 19th, 11AM

All ages welcome!



FIRST SAINT PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

First Saint Paul's,
established in 1846, is the oldest
Lutheran Church in Chicago.
The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod
was founded when historic meetings
were held here in 1847.

1301 N. LASALLE DRIVE CHICAGO, IL 60610 312.642.7172 www.fspauls.org



CHURCH STAFF

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Steven Wente Cantor swente@fspauls.org

Sandy Wilborn Security meals@fspauls.org

SERVICES OF WORSHIP

Sundays 9:30AM

Wednesday Spoken Eucharist 7AM

HOLY COMMUNION

Celebrated every Sunday morning

ELECTED CHURCH OFFICERS

* Voting member of Church Council

Chairman* Howard Ansorge

Vice Chairman*
Mark Knoblauch

Secretary Christine Lutze

Assistant Secretary Arlene Dahm

Treasurer*Bryan Scheider

Assistant Treasurer Barbara Webb

Financial SecretaryJan Seefeldt

Assistant Financial Secretary

Peggy Cassidy

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Assistant Membership Secretary Mary Langman

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Karla Lewis
John Mason
Taiwo Ogunyankin

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Mike Danilovich
Wally Heintzen
Jen Masengarb
Susan Rosborough

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Communion Assistant Coordinator

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Community Meals
Lisa Richards
Sandy Wilborn
Concordia Cemetery

John Stodden

Finance

Michael Danilovich

Human Resources Committee

Susan Rosborough **Landscape Committee**

Jan Seefeldt

Liturgical Arts

Darlene Fahrenkrog

Lutheran Home

Susan Rosborough

Sunday SchoolBarb Webb, Superintendent

Wunder's Cemetery
Dan Hendricksen



RADICAL FORGIVENESS



Then Peter came and said to him, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" –Matthew 18:21

At the Spring concert at Merit School of Music, the wind symphony played a new composition called "There are no words" by Jim Stephenson. It is "A musical response to the violence perpetrated against nine members of the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church on June 17, 2015."

The composer Jim Stephenson said a few words to help us understand the flow of his musical composition: The music begins with a brief realization of the violent act itself, then shock, then sadness, then anger, and then forgiveness. The last part, forgiveness, is inspired by the reaction of the victims' families.

As I sat there listening, I began to reflect on this divine miracle of forgiveness. This forgiveness was extended to the perpetrator of this unspeakable evil act. The family members of those who died offered forgiveness to the killer of their loved ones. This kind of forgiveness stuns the world. It even outrages people. How can you forgive someone who did such a wicked and hurtful act?

In the Gospel, we are able to forgive so completely and radically because we have been so forgiven by God. We are all perpetrators of sin. We are also all victims. Evil and death overcame the heart of the killer last June in Charleston, South Carolina first. Then evil and death was perpetrated to the victims who were having a Bible study in their church.



If there is one thing that sets us apart as believers in Jesus, it is forgiveness. Jesus is the one who cries, "Father, forgive them for they do not know what they are doing" (Luke 23:34). They do not realize that they are also pawns in a wicked scheme. We can forgive as Jesus did because we know how deep and deceptive sin can be in our lives. We can find empathy and compassion even for those who cannot find it in themselves.

You can hear the music I described by searching for it on YouTube where the composer posted it himself. I was not in the least shocked to see that the title of the song "There are no words" was put in the shape of the Cross. For that is the only way to understand such forgiveness—through the cross of Christ.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Johnson

Discipleship & Community: Living Life Together

By Marlo Schulz, Director of Family Ministry & Outreach

In an age where many say we are more connected globally yet seem to suffer from feeling alone, how do we stay connected in community and live life together? factoid that recently struck me: since 2005, confirmed membership in the LCMS has declined by 13.4%, while adult Sunday school attendance has declined by 24%. Only 7.64% of confirmed members participate in adult Sunday school. So what does living in community have to do with discipleship, connecting people, and falling Sunday school attendance numbers? For someone who is passionate about Christian education within the Church (that's all you folks and not the building!) it's made me scratch my head and do a lot of reading, praying and conversation with fellow DCE's who are wondering the same things. I have also been meeting with many First Saint Paul families to better understand who we are as a Church.

Here are some observations from my first quarter with you:

- FSP is good at connecting through food: making meals, collecting food, gathering around food.
- Music is important to our worship experience, and we include many in leading our worship through music.
- We have a lot of experts and expertise.

- We have many well-read members. Collectively, we read.
- Our members represent different life stages or demographics that bridge life stages (e.g. wide range of singles-all life stages, wide range of couples with or without children, empty nesters, retired, etc. and from 47 zip codes in the Chicago area).
- History of working with refugees and immigrant families.



What role does discipleship play in connecting who we are with ways that we can live life together? A definition for community/ family that I find interesting is - 'Household'- "those who call on the name of Jesus as well as those who need to find shelter within them." Household was used in Acts to describe when whole families were baptized. I think this definition connects with our First Saint Paul motto: "We welcome you to be at home among us."

Continued on next page



So how can we continue to grow as a family of those who call on the name of Jesus and invite others in need of shelter to make their home among us? Who is God calling us to welcome into our family?

Who are the people God causes to cross your path daily and how does the Holy Spirit call you to reach out and connect with those who might be in need of finding shelter among us?

JESUS WAS IN A SMALL GROUP. I'M JUST SAYIN'...

{ life change happens in small groups }

Small groups are one way we learn to know and care for one another. We have small groups at First Saint Paul's and are looking to expand this ministry. Small groups are focused on Bible study, service, worship, and living life together. Small groups are good places for us to explore how we can proclaim Christ, nurture faith, and serve others.

Please speak with Pastor Tom Johnson tjohnson@fspauls.org, myself, Marlo Schulz, mschulz@fspauls.org, or Amy Hendricksen smallgroups@fspauls.org, who will all be happy to help you get connected.

Check out www.fspauls.org for other ways you can get involved!

Break Bread & Study the Bible in Logan Square:

An Invitation for Fellowship From Amy Hendricksen



Would you like to experience warm fellowship and deep Bible study with friends at our house? Dan and Amy Hendricksen have been hosting a Bible study in their home in Logan Square for about eight years, meeting on the first and third Tuesdays of most months. We begin by sharing a meal together at 6:30PM. After dessert and coffee, we study the Bible. We have studied Luke, Matthew, Mark, John, and Acts. This summer we are discussing some of Paul's shorter letters and hope to begin to work through a few of the minor prophets in the fall. In May we read Philemon and Titus. Next up is 2nd Peter.

We have room at the table for a few new people since Todd and Veronica Hains are leaving for opportunities in Bellingham, Washington. You are invited to try us out this summer. Our group will meet on June 7 & 21, July 5 & 19, and August 2 & 16. Talk to Dan or Amy Hendricksen, Jan Seefeldt, Cindy Goers, or Buff Bethlen for more information on the group, or email ahendricksen2@aol.com . We'd love to welcome you!

First Saint Paul's is a stop on the 58th Dearborn Garden Walk on July 17!

Again this summer, on July 17 from 12N to 5PM, First Saint Paul's will be a stop on the Dearborn Garden Walk. Last year we welcomed over 100 visitors who stopped by to use our facilities, attend a workshop, or tour our sanctuary. A number of them had ties to our community of faith. Several were baptized or married here and many had attended services at one time. First Saint Paul's is just one of over 20 gardens and interesting places that are open to visitors for this event. There will also be a couple of workshops. We will be hosting one on *Herb Gardening*. The Dearborn Garden Walk is one of the oldest in the city and is a great way to see some of the hidden wonders of this community. Tickets are \$30 in advance, \$35 at the door. There is more information on the bulletin board or at www.dearborngardenwalk.com. Check it out!



We need your help to get ready!

Jan Seefeldt and Mike Cacicio are working together to get our gardens and patio in order so that we are ready for summer as well as for the garden walk. If you would like to help, please talk to one of them or contact them by email at jseefeldt@att.net or mike.cacicio@gmail.com. Planning, rehabbing the patio, and planting is taking place now!



We need your help on July 17th!

On the day of the Dearborn Garden Walk we will need several hosts:

- Two at the main door to welcome our visitors and invite them to tour the sanctuary, use the washroom, drink a glass of water and to lead sanctuary tours from 12N until 5PM.
- Two right after church services to help set up and test the projector and screen, chairs and tables for the half-hour Herb Gardening Workshops that take place at 1:30 and 3:45PM
- $\bullet~$ Two to greet people at the entrance to the patio from 12N to 5PM
- Two to help clean up from 5 to 5:30PM.

There will be sandwiches and snacks for the volunteers! We had a lot of visitors last year. It's a good way to meet our neighbors and make new friends. Sign up on the bulletin board for the whole afternoon or for a couple of hours. All help is appreciated! **Questions?** Talk with Amy Hendricksen or email ahendricksen2@aol.com.



MUSIC AT FIRST SAINT PAUL'S CHURCH

Through the Church the Song Goes On

-Steven Wente, cantor

A few Sundays ago (the Festival of Pentecost), I was in St. Louis to play organ for the May Bach at the Sem concert. [These concerts are held at Concordia Seminary, conducted by Maurice Boyer of the Concordia-Chicago faculty, and our former music director at First Saint Paul's.] While I regretted not being at First Saint Paul's, I used the opportunity to attend church not once but twice, visiting congregations where former students are now leading the music.

In both congregations, the choir sang, instrumentalists supported the congregational singing, and the music supported the readings and theme of the day (the same lessons as read at First Saint Paul's). While it is definitely gratifying to know that things are going well musically at these congregations, the larger message from this brief observation is that the worship of the church continues in various places and, yes, in various ways. We are supported in our song of praise in knowing that Christians far and wide (not just in St. Louis!) are praising God, hearing the word and receiving the sacrament, just as we are at First Saint Paul's.

The phrase "Through the Church the song goes on" comes from the familiar *Holy God*, *We Praise Thy Name* (Lutheran Service Book #940). This hymn is based on a great song (canticle) from the early church, the *Te Deum laudamus* (You are God; we praise you). Here the list of those involved includes the apostles, the prophets, and the white-robed martyrs in the great song of praise that we are privileged to sing each Lord's day. We are blessed with the knowledge that as we sing, others are also singing in other times and places so that truly *Through the Church the Song Goes On*.



Summer Choir

Speaking of singing, you have the opportunity to join your voice with other singers this summer in choir. We will sing three times over the summer:

June 26, July 24, August 7

Rehearsals will start at 8:45 am and music will be available a couple of weeks before the service. This is a great opportunity for you to participate with the choir in a friendly setting with a low time commitment. For more information, contact Steve Wente (swente@fspauls.org) or Margaret Danilovich (mdanilovich@fspauls.org).

Looking Ahead:

Christmas Concert

Our annual Christmas concert will be Sunday, December 18, at 3:30 pm. We're looking forward to glorious music for choir and instruments. Please mark this date on your calendar.



A historical Look at first Saint Paul's Messenger

As I type out, format, and add eye-catching colors and graphics to this 2016 Summer edition of *The Messenger*, I am humbled to see an old edition of our newsletter from September, 1936 (cover shown on the right), which was recently given to the church office. As a young woman growing up in the late 20th century, I can't help but think that I take for granted the ease with which I can copy & paste text and pictures, check for spelling and grammatical errors, even send off an email with requests for submissions.

I am sure the work that would have gone into a publication such as this, albeit small, would have taken many hands and minds.

So, dear friends, here is a tribute to those that worked so hard to get out the news and share the work of our church eighty years ago. You might notice some similarities to our congregation today (though we no longer offer German services on Sundays) and find just a bit of humor in some of our early church ancestors.

-Laurie Bart, Church Secretary

Ten Commandments For Church-goers

- Thou shalt not come to service late, Nor for the Amen refuse to wait.
- Thy whisp'ring tongue thou shalt restrain When speaks the organ its refrain.
- But when the hymns are sounded out, Thou shalt lift up thy voice and shout.
- The endmost seat thou shalt leave free,
 For more must share the pews with thee.
- The offering-plate thou shalt not fear, But give thine uttermost with cheer.
- Thou wilt the bulletin peruse
 And look here for the church's news.
- Thou shalt the minister give heed, Nor blame him when thou'rt disagreed.
- Unto thy neighbor thou shalt bend,
 And, if a stranger, make a friend.
- Thou shalt in every way be kind, Compassionate, of tender mind.
- And so, by all thy spirit's grace,
 Thou shalt show God within this place.
 J. H. Holmes.



Church Calendar EVERY SUNDAY

Sunday School: 9:30 A. M. German Service: 9:45 A. M. English Service: 11:00 A. M. Come and worship.

SOCIETIES

The Mixed Choir every Friday at 8:00 P. M. The Lutheran Laymen's League the second Thursday at 8:00 P. M.

The Ladies' Aid the first Thursday in the month and weekly from time to time.

The Mary Martha Guild the third Thursday at 8:00 P. M.

The Senior Walther League Society the third Tuesday at 8:00 P. M.

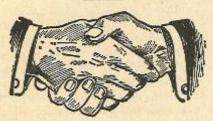
The Junior Walther League the second Tuesday at 7:45 P. M.

Das Heilige Abenbmahl im beutschen Gottesbienst: Jeden ersten Sonntag im Monat; Karfreitagmorgen 9:45 a.m. Beichte eine viertel Stunde vor dem Hauptgottesdienst.

The Lord's Supper in the English service:
The third Sunday of the month after the main service, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday evening at 8:15 p. m., and New Year's Eve at 8:00 p. m. Confessional or preparatory service in the communion service itself every month; and on New Year's Eve, on Maundy Thursday and on Good Friday from 8:00 to 8:15 p. m.



Welcoming the Stranger



"Give me thine hand." (II. Kings 10, 12). First impressions may not always be right, but they are usually lasting. How necessary, then, that our contacts with church visitors should establish lasting, correct, and permanent bonds of friendship! To this end, meet the visitor and worshipper with a warm handshake, a friendly smile, and a cordial greeting. Frigid air has a place and a purpose in a refrigerator, but it is entirely out of place in the precincts of a Christian church. Greetings here should be warm, wholehearted, friendly, and cordial. There is no danger of overdoing a sincere welcome. Visitors' first impressions of your church, its members, and its services should be right and lasting. The solution rests with you as a member of your church. Extend your hand and open your mouth in friendly greeting. The results will be mutually beneficial both to yourself, your congregation, and to the one you have greeted. "Be not forgetful to entertain strangers; for thereby some have entertained angels unawares."-American Lutheran.

-o-Notes and News

Our anniversary committee is preparing for the 90th anniversary of our congregation. In the next issue of our parish paper the time of the services will be announced. The anniversary will be celebrated in November.

The anniversary should not lead us to expect a great number of new members; no anniversary has ever succeeded in that way. However, it should make us try to gain as many new members as possible. We can't expect the opportunities of growth that many other congregations of our synod in Chicago have, although we do claim that indications are that we will grow, and possibly more, than some congregations whose neighborhoods are changing considerably. Transportation is in our favor. More on this subject later.

Welcoming the Stranger:

The 2015 September/October edition of The Messenger featured a similar article by Samuel Freney, "Keep on Welcoming", which spoke of the importance of first impressions for visitors, but more importantly the third and fourth impressions on subsequent visits. The similarities of these articles show that First Saint Paul's was, and still is, concerned with welcoming our visitors sincerely and openly.

Financial Report, July, 1936

For Our Congregation	
Average Amount of Expenses pe	r month.
Advertising	
Auto maintenance and depreciation	50.00
Fuel, light and power	55.00
Insurance	33.00
Fund for relief work	. 33.00
(Armenkasse)	25.00
Messenger	27.50
Messenger Repairing and decorating	27.50
Telephone	58.50 9.50
Telephone Tuition for school children	10.50
Miscellaneous expenses	19.50
Salaries ————————————————————————————————————	36.00
Clerical help	350.00
Cicical neip	28.00
Total	\$694.50
Total	2094.50
expenses and the Messenger	CE 1 70
capenses and the Messenger	651.72
Deficit	¢ 49 70
	ф та.10
Report on first seven months of	
Average expenses	34,861.50
Current income	3,910.28
Deficit	951.22

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WM.	C. KLEINEI
JEWI	ELER AND OPTICIAN
	Phone Lincoln 0305
	707 W. North Ave.
Eyes teste	ed by E. W. Kleiner, Optometr
HEN	IRY F. WARNEKE
and the second	FACTURING JEWELER
DIAMON	NDS AND WEDDING RING
Repairing	Old Gold Boug
	Phone Dearborn 6966
	Res. Phone Irving 3941
0.	W. Tanke
Sent Iv	PHARMACIST
	Felephone Diversey 7127
ı	architecture and architecture a
1	1400 N. Clark St.

The Messenger contained advertisements for local businesses (above).

Members of First Saint Paul's were preparing to celebrate the 90th anniversary of the church (left).



The first rehearsal of the choir will be on Friday, Sept. 11th, at 8:00 p. m. All members of the choir are kindly asked to come that evening and to invite others to join the choir. What a beautiful service is rendered by our choir and our three soloists!

The first Confirmation lesson will be held on the third Monday in September, one again at 4:00 p. m. and the other at 7:00 p. m. Your pastor eagerly looks forward to these lessons; the Lord grant that many children join this class; the courses for those who wish to go to these lessons two years and for those who go only one year, are combined. The lessons in the evening are given only if they are necessary; during recent years all children preferred to come in the afternoon.

A special class for adults will be started on the first Tuesday in November. Very frequently adults express the wish, that a different evening be selected on account of their work. The pastor will gladly arrange for lessons on a different evening if necessary or by instruction by mail.

First Saint Paul's Calendar of Events

Upcoming Events for the Summer

June 12 Voter's Assembly meeting, 11 AM

(No free parking in Franklin School lot—Art Fair)

June 19 Father's Day! Bring your father/grandfathers to church

Refreshments to follow

Summer Sunday School Kick-off

July 9 & 16 New member classes, 8:30-11:30AM July 10 Carrie Foreman Voice Recital, 1 PM

Proceeds to benefit FSP Community Meals Program

July 17 Dearborn Garden Walk, 12 NN-5 PM

August 21 No free parking in Franklin School lot—Air & Water Show

August 28 Church Picnic, 11 AM

Future Events—Save the Dates!

September 11 Rally Day for Sunday School students

September 24 Oktoberfest, 5—10 PM

October 2 Pet blessing, 12 NN October 9 Chicago Marathon

First Saint Paul's service at 11:00 AM

October 30 Reformation Sunday

November 13 Stewardship/Consecration Sunday

November 24 Thanksgiving service, 11 AM
December 18 Christmas concert, 3:30 PM
December 24 Christmas Eve service, 7 PM
December 25 Christmas Day service, 10 AM



Praying Through the Church

BECAUSE WE ARE A CHURCH FAMILY, a community of faith, we have a concern for one another, a concern that is expressed on Sunday mornings, as we pray for members of our church family 'by name'.

WE PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER remembering the words of St. Paul the Apostle to Timothy, "I urge then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone..." and the promise of our Lord Jesus Christ, "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you."

WE ALSO ENCOURAGE members and friends of the congregation to make their prayer requests, births, illnesses, deaths, anniversaries, special occasions for intercession or thanksgiving, known to the pastor, preferably before the Sunday morning services, but in cases of emergency, right up to the service time.

THE FOLLOWING FRIENDS & MEMBERS of our church family will be remembered in the services of worship during the Summer:

6.5.16: Bobby Phillips; Keely Polczynski; Erin Polczynski; Chris & Connie Rademacher; Michelle Rae; Karen Raidel; Janette Ramirez; Tom & Gretchen Randall

6.12.16: Ambrose Ratcliff; Paul Rehmer; Russ Reisenleiter; Evelyn Retzlaff; Craig Richmond; David Rogner; Susan Rosborough

6.19.16: Dawn Roscoe; Bryant & Ellen Rosenwinkel; Amy Roth; Charles & Lisa Rowe; Shawn Sackett; Sinikka Russell; Janice Schaffrick; Brian Schaeffer

6.26.16: Mark Schaper; Dan Schedler; Margaret Schell; Daniel Schiessl; Dan Schlemmer; Jennifer Schmidt; Bryan Schneider

7.3.16: Michael & Liz Schubert and Louisa; Marlo Schulz; Jan Schwarzer; Jan Seefeldt; Joni Seidel-Burnett; Sarah Sekki; Kristi Selden

7.10.16: Michael Siebert; Kelly Singer; Susan Smith, Elizabeth and Stephen; Ericka Soukup; James & Bonnie Spurlock; Brian Steiling

7.17.16: John & Valerie Stodden; William & Tayler Stogsdill and Charlotte; Andrea Stoutenborough; Wilma Strauss

7.24.16: Gene & Carole Svebakken; Tom & Lori Thomas; Zachary Treece; Brian & Catherine Turley; Julie Umnus; Ronald Urbaniak; Shirley Varland

7.31.16: Theo Voska; Mike Vrshek; Justin & Felicia Waggoner and Jacob; Chuck & Julie Wahtola; Elisabeth Wallner, Margarete and Aryana

8.7.16: Todd & Barbara Webb, Henry and Lucy; Elisabeth Weber; Jenny Wells; Karla Wente; Steven & Sue Wente; Jim Whitehead

8.14.16: Sandy Wilborn; Sharon Wildermuth; Mark & Melissa Wimer; Peter Wirtala; Matthew & Christine Wnek; Florence & Francis Wolfe

8.21.16: Cynthia Yeomans; Katie Young; Jacob & Ellen Zehnder; Michael Zhang; Janet Zielke

8.28.16: Tea & Clyde Akbar; Richard Allen & Jill Chapman, Lydia and Henry; Howard & Nancy Ansorge; Charles Aufdenkampe

Official Acts

Baptisms

3.13.16 Michael Zhang

3.13.16 Sally Jean Martin Gillingham Born 6.26.15 to Jennifer & Donald Gillingham

5.8.16 Theodore & Isabelle Betzig
Born 10.17.14 to Catharine &
Charles Betzig

First Communion

3.24.16 Grace Leininger, daughter of Jeff & Rachel Leininger

New Members By Transfer

2.2.16 Marlo Schulz3.13.16 Zach Treece

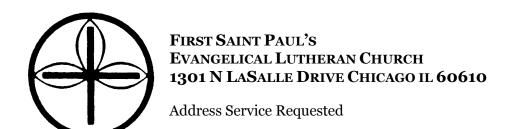
By Affirmation of Faith

3.13.16 Jason Ganek Michael Zhang

By Reaffirmation of Faith

3.13.16 Michael Burkholder Lorinda Scrogham Michael Cacicio





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SAVE THE DATE!!

FIRST SAINT PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
1301 NORTH LASALLE DRIVE
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Oktoberfest 2016 SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24th 5 – 10 PM