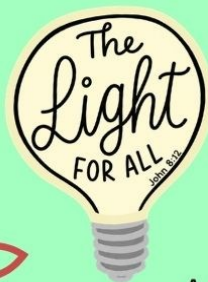


FIRST CONNECTIONS

Please join us for the

ICHTHUS KICKOFF

Wednesday
SEPTEMBER 9TH



As we begin a new ministry year, join us as we celebrate the light and hope we have in Jesus! Our theme, The Light for All, is based on Jesus' words in John 8:12

"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

Everyone is invited to join us as we kick off a new year of learning, growing, and shining Christ's light in our homes, schools, and community. Together, we'll celebrate the One Who lights our path and reminds us that His love is for everyone.

Come be part of this exciting new beginning as we share
The Light for All!

5:00 PM COMMUNITY MEAL
ALL ARE WELCOME!

5:30-6:45 PM OUTSIDE ACTIVITIES
AGES 3-6TH GRADE: REGISTRATION REQUIRED
SEE THE KIDS PAGE FOR DETAILS!

6:05-6:45 PM CONFIRMATION
7TH & 8TH GRADERS - Y&FMC

6:05-6:45 PM ADULT BIBLE STUDIES
CHECK OUT THE ADULT PAGE FOR DETAILS!

7:00 PM WORSHIP
JOIN US IN THE CELEBRATION CENTER FOR FAITH,
FUN, AND FANTASTIC PRIZES!

8:00 PM SOUL CAFÉ
HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS - CHRISTIAN
UNDERGROUND

"United, We Live God's Will"

**WEDNESDAY,
AUGUST 5TH**
6:30-9:00 PM



**75TH ANNUAL
ICE CREAM SOCIAL
WITH CAR &
MOTORCYCLE SHOW**

Matching funds up to
\$3,000 will be provided by
Thrivent Choice Dollars!



All proceeds will benefit two of our church members
to help offset medical related expenses!



ERIC POHLSON

Eric and Jennifer Pohlson have been part of the First St. Paul's family for many years. They were married here in 1997. They have two children, Kailee and John, and two grandsons, Wesley and Wyatt.

LOGAN HIATT

Logan is the son of Jessica Gutierrez-Beahm and Riley Hiatt Sr., and little brother to Riley. Jessica joined First St. Paul's in 2021. Logan is the great-grandson of longtime member Lynne Beahm.



IN THIS ISSUE:

WORSHIP

*Opportunities

KIDS MINISTRY

*Fall Kickoff

YOUTH MINISTRY

*Fall Events

ADULT MINISTRY

*Learning Opportunities

MISSION

*Outreach Opportunities

CALENDAR

MEMBER CELEBRATIONS

WORSHIP

Questions?
Contact: Church Office
(402) 463-1329



**MADE
TO
WORSHIP**

Radio: 1230 AM
Sundays 11:00 A.M.

**We invite you to join us for worship in the way
that works best for you!**

Traditional Services

Sanctuary
Saturdays-6:00 P.M.
Sundays-8:25 A.M.
Holy Communion:
1st Sunday each month

Contemporary Service

Celebration Center
Sundays-10:35 A.M.
Holy Communion:
3rd Sunday each month

Facebook Livestream

Sundays 8:25 A.M. & 10:35 A.M.

Good Sam. Village Ch. 3

Sundays 6:00 P.M. & Wednesdays 12:30 P.M.

Hastings Public Access TV

Spectrum ch. 181/Allo ch. 16
Wed 2:00 P.M. & Sun 2:30 P.M.

**There are open dates for bulletin, flower and radio sponsorships. Please contact the
Church Office if you are interested at (402) 463-1329.**



New Member Classes

Discover our church, meet new friends,
and learn how to get connected.

Classes will begin following
the 10:35 A.M. service with
lunch being served.

- September 13th
- September 20th
- September 27th

New Members Received October 4th

A special reception will be held
between services to welcome
our newest members into our
First St. Paul's Family.

Contact the church office to sign up at (402) 463-1329!

BACKPACK+ BLESSING

AUGUST 8 & 9 AUGUST 15 & 16

ALL WORSHIP SERVICES

Bring your backpack for a **SPECIAL BLESSING** and a **FUN GIFT** as we prepare for a new school year!

"The Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore."
- PSALM 121:8

A Message From Our Church Council

What do you think? We want to hear from you!

Earlier this summer, the Congregational Council decided to study every aspect of First St. Paul's Lutheran Church. This study of our services, programming, staffing, facilities, and financial well-being was thought essential by Council members for future congregational efforts to carry out our church mission.

We hope you will help the Council to plan for the future by completing the "Voice of the Congregation" Survey that will be made available to all members of the congregation starting this coming August 2 and running through August 16, 2026. While we only want each member's input once, we are providing everyone with a three-week period to provide their thoughts on the future of the Church. During this three-week period, we will provide a QR code for members to complete an electronic version of the survey. A hard copy version will be provided to members who are unable to complete the electronic version. This effort is being announced here to encourage your participation.

We hope you will help us by completing a survey between August 2 and August 16. If you have questions or concerns about this, please visit with a Council member or one of the Pastors. Thank you in advance for your consideration!

One survey per person and please remain anonymous.



NOTICE:

The **FOUNDER'S HALL** is still going through renovations and
has limited availability until further notice!



KIDS

Discipleship

Questions?

Contact: Cassie Brader or Kendra Weichman
at FSPKidsMin@firststpauls.org

SUNDAY SCHOOL
9:30 – 10:30 AM

Kids 3 Years Old - 6th Grade
Be sure to **CHECK-IN**
before heading to class!

Wednesday Night Ichthus

Grades 1-6:
6:00 – 7:15 PM

Pre-K/Kindergarten:
6:00 – 6:45 PM
*Nursery available until 7:15 PM
Grades 1-6:
6:00 – 7:15 PM



Joyful Noises CHOIR DIRECTOR WANTED



Please contact the Becky Mohling
at (402) 984-7154 for more info!



NEW THIS YEAR



On Wednesday nights, our preschool and kindergarten classes will be dismissed earlier at 6:45 PM

Too early? No problem! Our nursery will be available until 7:15 PM while you finish up your Bible Study Class!



READY TO ROLL
INTO A NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL YEAR!
Sunday, September 13th
9:30 - 10:30 AM
Ages 3 years - 6th grade
CHECK-IN FIRST AND THEN HEAD TO YOUR OPENING AREA!
3 YRS-KINDERGARTEN: UPSTAIRS EDUCATION WING
1ST - 6TH GRADERS: FOUNDERS HALL
LEARN. GROW. SHINE. WITH JESUS!

3rd Grade Bible Boot Camp

CLASSES: SUNDAYS 9/13-10/18
9:30 AM

YOUTH & FAMILY CENTER
BIBLE PRESENTATION SUNDAY
OCT. 18, 10:35 AM

REGISTER

Call the Church
at (402) 463-1329 or scan
QR code:



All 3rd graders are invited to receive their very own Bible and learn how to use God's Word through fun, hands-on activities. This special milestone helps children build a strong foundation in their faith. If your child is older and missed receiving their 3rd Grade Bible, they are welcome to participate.



GOD MADE ME PRESCHOOL

God Made Me Preschool is now enrolling for all classes, ages 3 - 5 years old. Give your little one a faith-filled foundation where they'll grow, explore, and shine bright! Come join us this fall!

FUN & CREATIVE CURRICULUM
MAKE NEW FRIENDS
FIELD TRIPS & OUTDOOR PLAY
SMALL CLASS SIZES
CLASSROOM PETS
LEARN TO INTERACT WITH PEERS
ENROLL TODAY!

Class Time: 8:15 a.m. - 11:00 AM

4 & 5 Years Old: \$110 per month
Monday ~ Wednesday ~ Friday

3 Years Old: \$90 per month
Tuesday ~ Thursday

To register or for more information:
Becky Conway, Director
Phone: (402) 463-1329
Website: www.firststpauls.org
Email: GodMadeMe@firststpauls.org
Need based scholarships are available.

Questions?
Contact: Pastor Chad Power
(402) 705-4026

YOUTH

Discipleship



ACOLYTE TRAINING!

- ★ SERVE WITH PURPOSE
- ♥ LEAD WITH HEART
- ✚ SHINE FOR GOD

YOUR LIGHT
MAKES A
DIFFERENCE!

SEPTEMBER 13TH — 9:30 AM — SANCTUARY

Calling all 6th, 7th, and 8th graders! If you're in 6th grade and want to begin serving as an acolyte, or you're in 7th or 8th grade and haven't completed training, this training is for you! Acolyting is a meaningful way to serve during Worship and is a Confirmation requirement, so don't miss this opportunity to learn, build confidence, and prepare to serve.



OREOS

The **Good Stuff** in the Middle
For ALL 7th & 8th Graders & Friends



This group typically meets the fourth Sunday each month. Look for announcements with more info.



7th & 8th Grade Confirmation

Wednesdays at Y&FMC
6:05-7:30 PM

Watch out for more info to come by mail!

SR. HIGH MISSION TRIP STOCKHOLDER'S BANQUET

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9TH AT 5:00 PM — CELEBRATION CENTER

If you purchased stock in the Senior High Mission Trip, one of your benefits is the Stockholder's Banquet! Enjoy a delicious meal while our mission team shares stories, photos, and highlights from their week of mission. Come celebrate what God has done through your support!

Not a stockholder? There's still time! Purchase your shares electronically or at the door. The cost is \$30 per share (minimum purchase)!



Link at firststpauls.org or scan the QR code

SENIOR (GRADES 9 - 12)

High Ministry

Soul Café is for high schoolers and their friends. Meets on Wednesday nights in the Christian Underground.



7:00 - 8:00 PM

HOMEWORK & HANGOUT HOUR



8:00 - 9:00 PM

SOUL CAFÉ

Dive into God's word and grow together in faith.



Jr. High Mission Team Lutheran Valley Retreat in Colorado



Front Row: Amelya Schardt, Ava Bonifas, Autumn Peper, Jordyn Powell, Emma Rust, Olyvia Craddock, Dawson Savage, Ollie Nyman, Michael Harrenstein
Middle Row: Ashley Hajny, Carter Hajny, Kinsley Stuehrenberg, Paetyn Fitzke, Kash Schultz, Landon Gregg, Logan Lubken, Beckman Onken, Amanda Solem, Pastor Chad Power
Back Row: John Boltz, Tony Powell, Bryce Harrenstein



"...and you will be my
witnesses in
Jerusalem,
in all Judea and
Samaria, and
to the ends of the
earth."

Sr. High Mission Team Rincón, Puerto Rico



Front Row: Kennedy Montague, Stella Montague, Yarethzi Lom, Reese Lavene, Ryann King, Margaret Treffer, Brinleigh Blecha, Lex Rogers
Middle Row: Craig Kautz, Hadley Doremus, Lily Hinrichs, Jersie Diecker, Arron Diecker, Josh King, Bradyn Eikmeier, Easton Savage, Brady Willicott, Emilea Rogers
Back Row: Jamison Peper, Sam Tunks, Lincoln Treffer, Lisa Diecker, Jotie Montague, Hudson Treffer, Brandon Savage, Travis Bronson, Payton Powell, Pastor Chad Power

ADULT

Discipleship

Questions? Contact: Becky Mohling
(402) 984-7154

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

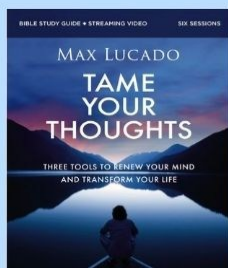
Tuesday Mornings



Join us for coffee, fellowship, and God's Word.

6:30 A.M. in the Heritage Room

Wednesday Women's Study



TAME YOUR THOUGHTS BY MAX LUCADO

Host: Becky Mohling

TWO times available

4:00-5:00 PM

6:00-7:00 PM

***"Learning Three Tools to Renew Your Mind
and Transform Your Life."***

"Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God – what is good and acceptable and perfect."

– Romans 12:2

Wednesday Women's Study



THE BOOK OF RUTH BY BIANCA JUAREZ

Host: Jessica Walston &
Morgan Savage

6:00-7:00 PM

God can seem distant when dreams fade, people die or careers fail. No one knows the feeling of abandonment more than Ruth and Naomi. Their story begins with the worst and God remains silent. But the book of Ruth doesn't end with despair, but instead shows hope because God works on their behalf in ways they least expect.

Do you want to help share the
Light for All during Ichthus?

We would love to talk with you about
leading a Coed or Men's Bible Study
on Wednesday evenings!



Please contact Becky
Mohling for more info!



Location: Holy
Grounds Room

Time: Sundays
9:30–10:30 AM

Starts:
September 13th

A Bible study just for parents—at any stage of life. Come enjoy coffee, connection, and conversation as we choose a study together and support one another in faith and parenting. All are welcome!

ADULT FORUM



Location: Heritage Room

Time: Sundays 9:30–10:30 AM

Meets Year Round

Join Pastor Joel on Sunday mornings and explore a variety of Bible topics together. This group digs into Scripture, asks big questions, and grows in faith through open discussion and thoughtful teaching.



Thursday Night Men's Study

Starts Sept. 4th

BEATITUDES

BY MATT CHANDLER

Host: Evan Volzke

7:30 PM at Aaron Diecker's House

Pastor Matt Chandler takes us through the Beatitudes and shows us what it means to live in the kingdom of God. Through Jesus's teachings, learn what the blessed life really looks like.

MISSION

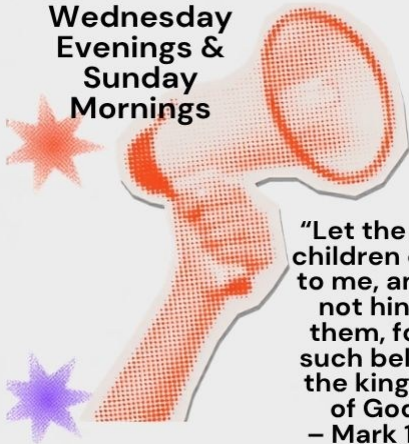
Voice of the Congregation

Don't forget to fill out your electronic or paper survey between **August 3rd-16th!**

Please only fill out one survey.

Thank you for your cooperation!

Wednesday
Evenings &
Sunday
Mornings



"Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God."
— Mark 10:14



For more information or to volunteer, contact Becky Mohling at (402) 984-7154!

WE NEED YOU!

Share Your Faith. Shape a Life!

LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS:



The children of First St. Paul's are growing in faith each week because caring adults choose to invest in them. Our Wednesday Ichthus and Sunday Children's Ministry programs for preschool through 6th grade are filled with opportunities for kids to learn about Jesus, build friendships, and experience God's love—but **THESE MINISTRIES ARE ONLY POSSIBLE BECAUSE OF FAITHFUL VOLUNTEERS!**

Your time and encouragement can make a lasting impact on a child's faith journey. As we prepare for another wonderful year of ministry, we are looking for volunteers to serve on Wednesdays and Sundays. If you've been looking for a meaningful way to serve, this is it!



Contact Belva Junker at
402 (469)-1236 with questions

GriefShare is for those who are grieving the death of a loved one and is free to join. Look out for announcements for one-time special sessions this Fall, including "Loss of a Spouse" and "Surviving the Holidays".

ICHTHUS MENU

September 9th

Taco/Nacho Bar, Refried Beans, Chips, and a Root Beer Float

September 16th

Sesame Chicken, Rice, Broccoli, and a Dessert

September 23rd

Meatloaf, Cheesy Potatoes, Green Beans, and a Dessert

September 30th

Spaghetti Bar, Alfredo or Red Meat Sauce, Garlic Bread, and a Dessert

ALL MEALS SERVED WITH SALAD & VEGGIES AND PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY SANDWICHES

All Meals are Subject to Change



stephen MINISTRY

Are you going through a hard time or just need an extra friend to talk to?

If you are in need of a Stephen Minister, please reach out to Janet Drudik, Kathy Adelson, John Boltz, one of our Pastors, or contact the Church Office.



GOD MADE ME PRESCHOOL ALLEN'S AND RUSS'S RECEIPTS BEST CHOICE UPC LABELS

God Made Me Preschool is collecting Russ's and Allen's receipts and Best Choice UPC Labels. Receipts dated from September 1st, 2026 thru March 31st, 2027 can be submitted. Every receipt you turn in earns points that help us purchase essential supplies for the classroom. Best Choice UPCs are also being collected on a yearly basis. Receipts and UPCs can be turned in to the Church Office or dropped into the collection container in the Gathering Area. We appreciate your support!



September 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 6:30 Men's Bible Study 4:30 Outreach 5:30 Christian Ed 6:30 Worship & Music	2 5:00 Executive 7:00 Praise Band	3	4	5 6:00 Worship
6 8:25 Worship 9:30 Adult Forum 10:30 Worship	7 1:00 Bridge 7:00 Property	8 6:30 Men's Bible Study 6:30 Foundation 7:30 Council	9 9:00 LCW Project Day 5:00 Ichthus Kick Off 8:00 Praise Band	10 2:00 Knit, Pray, Crochet 6:30 Quilters Guild	11	12 6:00 Worship
13 Sunday School Begins 8:25 Worship 9:30 Education Hr. 9:30 Acolyte Training 10:30 Worship 12:00 New Member Class	14 9:30 LCW Exec 12:00 Finance	15 6:30 Men's Bible Study 1:30 LCW Group 3	16 9:30 LCW Group 1 1:30 LCW Group 2 5:00 Ichthus Meal 6:00 Activities 7:00 Praise Band 8:00 Soul Cafe	17	18	19 6:00 Worship
20 8:25 Worship 9:30 Education Hr. 10:30 Worship 12:00 New Member Class	21 4:15 Stephen Ministry	22 6:30 Men's Bible Study 7:30 Compassionate Friends	23 5:00 Ichthus Meal 6:00 Activities 7:00 Praise Band 8:00 Soul Cafe	24 1:00 Bridge 2:00 Knit, Pray, Crochet	25 1:00 Bridge	26 6:00 Worship
27 8:25 Worship 9:30 Education Hr. 10:30 Worship 12:00 New Member Class	28	29 6:30 Men's Bible Study	30 5:00 Ichthus Meal 6:00 Activities 7:00 Praise Band 8:00 Soul Cafe			

August 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 6:00 Worship
2 8:25 Worship 9:30 Adult Forum	3 1:00 Bridge 7:00 Property	4 6:30 Men's Bible Study 4:30 Outreach 5:30 Christian Ed 6:30 Worship & Music	5 5:00 Executive 6:30 Ice Cream Social 7:00 Praise Band	6 5:00 GriefShare 6:30 Quilter's Guild	7	8 6:00 Worship Backpack Blessing
9 8:25 Worship 9:30 Adult Forum 10:30 Worship Backpack Blessing 5:00 Stockholder's Banquet	10 12:00 Finance	11 6:30 Men's Bible Study 6:30 Foundation 7:30 Council Meeting	12 7:00 Praise Band	13 2:00 Knit, Pray, Crochet 5:00 GriefShare	14	15 6:00 Worship Backpack Blessing
16 8:25 Worship 9:30 Adult Forum 10:30 Worship Backpack Blessing	17 4:15 Stephen Ministry	18 6:30 Men's Bible Study 1:30 LCW Group 3	19 9:30 LCW Group 1 1:30 LCW Group 2 7:00 Praise Band	20 5:00 GriefShare	21	22 6:00 Worship
23 8:25 Worship 9:30 Adult Forum 10:30 Worship	24	25 6:30 Men's Bible Study 7:30 Compassionate Friends	26 7:00 Praise Band	27 2:00 Knit, Pray, Crochet 5:00 GriefShare	28 1:00 Bridge	29 6:00 Worship
30 8:25 Worship 9:30 Adult Forum 10:30 Worship	31					

MEMBER CELEBRATIONS

We celebrate birthdays starting at age 80 and anniversaries beginning with the 25th year. While we do our best to keep these lists up to date, we know mistakes can happen. If you or someone you know should be included but isn't—or if you'd prefer not to be listed—please let us know. We'd love to honor you correctly!

Happy Birthday to our Members

August Birthdays

- | | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| 2 - Connie Samuelson - 87 | 5 - Arlen Brown - 85 | 19 - Donna McCoy - 88 |
| 3 - Joe Thompson - 82 | 10 - LeRoy Samuelson - 87 | 23 - Willa Rundle - 86 |
| 4 - Ruth Svoboda - 88 | 16 - Dennis Fleharty - 81 | 28 - Sandy Mackie - 81 |

September Birthdays

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| 5 - Cherie Korgan - 87 | 18 - Bob Fish - 84 | 22 - Holly Potts - 81 |
| * 7 - Rhonda Rutt - 80 | 19 - Gayle Lysthaug - 88 | 23 - Thelma Hinrichs - 93 |
| 8 - Betty Bunde - 91 | 21 - Gene Svoboda - 90 | 24 - Patricia Meyer - 86 |
| *13 - Coleen Dygert - 80 | 22 - Jo Maul - 83 | 26 - Cheryl Marr - 81 |

Happy Anniversary to our Members

* milestone anniversary - 25th and 50th

August Anniversaries

- | | |
|--|--|
| 2 - Matthew and Staci Stritt - 1997 | *14 - Roger and Stacy Flohrs - 1982 |
| 4 - Richard and JoNita Meester - 1973 | 14 - Stephen and Amy Svoboda - 1976 |
| 6 - Howard and Belva Junker - 1966 | 14 - Darran and Toni Fowler - 1987 |
| 6 - Steve and Verona Anderson - 1977 | 17 - Rex and Michelle Kreutzer - 1991 |
| 6 - Robert and Lisa Boyd - 1983 | 21 - Dean and Karen Hawthorne - 1966 |
| 7 - Chris and April Michael - 1998 | 21 - Marty and Angela Pinkerman - 1981 |
| 7 - Brian and Stacy Becker - 1998 | 24 - Gregg and Georgina Hueske - 1996 |
| 7 - Lawrence and Heidi Tunks - 1999 | 25 - Randal and Barsha Kort - 1990 |
| 8 - Gregory and Rebecca Spady Sr. - 1987 | 28 - Michael and Maribeth Bruns - 1977 |
| 8 - Dale and Kathryn Schultz - 1971 | *28 - Keith and Kay Martikainen - 1976 |
| 9 - Seth and Rochelle Andersen - 1997 | 30 - Dale and Marilyn Duensing - 1968 |
| 10 - Phil and Kimberly Grothen - 1996 | 30 - Delmer and Sandra Van Lengen - 1964 |
| 13 - Mike and Sheryl Haack - 1994 | 31 - Larry and Deborah Meyer - 1985 |

September Anniversaries

- | | |
|---|--|
| 2 - Gene & Ruth Svoboda - 2000 | 18 - JR and Brenda Fox - 1999 |
| 2 - Robert and Mary Ann Fish - 1962 | 18 - Kirk and Kim Halbmaier - 1999 |
| 3 - Daniel and Cheryl Marr - 1967 | 19 - Richard and Shanna Schnase - 1992 |
| 4 - Donald and Phyllis Tinsman - 1971 | 20 - David and Patricia Gartner - 1964 |
| 4 - Phillip and Susan Askey - 1993 | 21 - Charles and Sue Pavelka - 1991 |
| 7 - Dean and Nancy Krull - 1985 | 22 - Andrew & Kelly Nelson - 2001 |
| 10 - Ronald and Sharon Hager - 1966 | 25 - Jim and Allerita Gerloff - 1971 |
| 12 - Troy and Lori Vorderstrasse - 1992 | 26 - Denny and Jessica Hoagland - 1998 |
| 15 - Norman and June Schiffler - 1990 | 26 - John and Norma Rust - 1981 |
| 17 - Philip and Evelyn Sweet - 1956 | 27 - Allen and Connie Sjuts - 1969 |

Journal of Life and Growth

May 1st - June 31st

Transferred to Church Triumphant

Suzanne Weber on 5/6/2026
John Hohlen on 5/20/2026
Lucille Watts on 5/28/2026
Diane McLeod on 6/3/2026
Marlene Fast on 6/21/2026
Betty Magee on 6/22/2026

