

THE MESSENGER

SEPTEMBER, 2021

The Interim Rector's Corner



Brother Keith Nelson, of the Society of Saint John the Evangelist, an Episcopal monastic order in Massachusetts, says this: "At a certain point, it is impossible to maintain...hope that is meaningful, hope that is Christian, if there is grieving that has not been brought into the light of God's presence. Because we are called to a concrete and specific hope – the hope of the Resurrection – we must engage

with concrete and specific grief and help one another to get concrete and specific. Feelings of pain and loss clarified, named, spoken aloud and lamented over have never had more of a role to play in our life of faith, corporately and individually, than right now."

Each morning I read my digital version of *The Washington Post* scanning articles and reviewing COVID cases and casualties. For me it is part of getting ready for Morning Prayer, lengthening my prayer list at a speed I never could have imagined. I think when Brother Keith talks about grief, both concrete and specific, he is encouraging us to name our losses, to speak them aloud, much like the cries of lament heard throughout the Psalms.

St. Paul's as a community of faith, and each of you as individuals have lost much during both the pandemic and this time of transition; Worship, music, formation, fellowship, the passing of the Peace, the warm hug of a friend. You have lost beloved parishioners whom you could not mourn together and a whole staff, minus one, whom you never really got to share in a satisfying "good-bye."

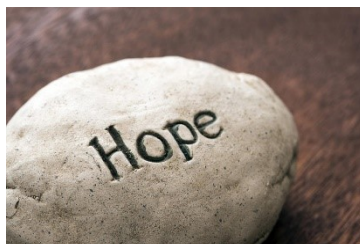
Liturgy has a way of speaking to us as Episcopalians; in it we both give thanks and express our grief. On Sunday, October 24, we will share in a service of "Lament and

Thanksgiving." It will be a time where we can liturgically mourn those losses related to COVID and this time of transition, as well as give thanks for things we have discovered or learned about ourselves or our relationship with God. Perhaps, you have found God in nature on long walks that you didn't use to take or now connect with your grandchildren in Oregon, sharing a weekly story time on zoom. These are things for which to be thankful!

You will soon receive a letter in the mail with three blue and three yellow 3x5 cards. I invite you to write what you and/or St. Paul's lost on the blue cards and what you have learned or are thankful for on the yellow cards. Please place your blue laments and yellow thanksgivings in the large bowl by the offering plate to be included in the prayers on October 24th. If you would prefer that your laments or thanksgivings remain silent and be put on the altar during the service, please place them in the basket instead of the bowl. You may also mail them to the church, putting "Lament" or "Thanksgiving" on the envelope and "Private" if you do not want it read aloud. You may also request time for conversation, prayers, or anointing with one of the clergy. Simply make your wish known on the backside of one of the cards. Extra cards can be found in the back of the church for additional laments or thanksgivings.

"We are called to a concrete and specific hope – the hope of the Resurrection," says Brother Keith. Let us offer up our losses for God to transform them and fill us with hope and love for what lies ahead.

In Christ's Love,
Mother Debra+



From Your Vestry—Senior Warden Report



Greetings from your wardens and vestry! We have continued to meet twice a month over this summer, and continue to reach out to and reconstitute key committees as we plan for even more recruitment at Rally Day. The music director position is still posted, and we are considering how best to support the planning for

youth Christian Formation that Joanne Erspamer has stepped up to coordinate. Thanks to all who have expressed an interest in contributing your time and energy towards this programming, and we appreciate the guidance we are receiving from ECMN staff. Look for other communications about these plans and let us know if you have ideas or want to be a part of “rebooting” this meaningful part of our parish life.

At our August business meeting, we were so grateful to receive an updated financial report from our new Bookkeeper (Christine) and Treasurer (Becky)! Both of them have put significant effort into mastering our finances and accounting systems, and tracking our complicated investment funds, to the extent we can now bring back in-house some of the services we were outsourcing since Natalie’s retirement. Maybe most importantly, though, I was so grateful to see just how well we are doing with pledge support, and I want to call out in praise and thanksgiving that the people of St. Paul’s are showing your support for our ongoing ministries, services, and continuing the hard work on our journey.



As I circle back and review the “Vestry Priorities” we shared with the congregation at our annual meeting, I’m pleased to see we’ve ticked off a pretty impressive number of actions and objectives. They may not all be particularly apparent or visible, but the result is that we have (safely) reopened for worship, are livestreaming our services, filled several critical staff/service gaps, done administrative review of our operations and up-

dated several key policies and procedures, recruited (too many of you to count!) to work with us on teams and tasks, brought on a professional capital campaign consultant to help us discern feasibility, and managed to keep the building dry and the lights on – during a global pandemic and for fully a year after our long-term rector moved on! We have much to celebrate, and still much left to do.

Yet for many of you (yes, we *have* been listening carefully!), the most important measure – in fact, maybe the only measure – of our progress is where we are in the search for a new rector. The vestry determined at last night’s lengthy meeting that we are now in the position to begin the process of putting together a rector search team. We will have a table at Rally Day, and there will be more detailed information to come about the diverse representation we want our search team to reflect. But if you think you might be interested in this important work, or have in mind someone from the parish you would like to nominate, please contact Eirik or me or sign up at Rally Day!!

If you haven’t already, I encourage ALL OF YOU to participate in a Faith in our Future meeting. YOUR ideas, concerns, and imagination are going to be the foundational information for our upcoming rector search and our determining our goals and timing for “extraordinary stewardship” through a capital campaign. We may offer more opportunities into September; look for updates in the bulletins and on our website.

We also had our first visit from Bishop Craig Loya, who led a NE Mission Area meeting, had a working lunch with the vestry, and celebrated a service for confirmations/ baptisms at St. Paul’s, all in one day. What a great moment for celebrating new commitments and recommitments to *our* service in the body of Christ! Please continue to keep us in your prayers, and be thinking about how you, personally, would respond to “What do I want St. Paul’s to be, moving forward?”

You can reach me via email at:

ncosta2799@charter.net

Peace,

Nancy Schuldt,
Senior Warden

From Your Bookkeeper



Dear Parishioners,

The eagerly awaited financial information....

July financials were presented at the August 2021 Vestry meeting. Here is a summary of the July **General Fund** Statement of Activities.

July update of 2021 pledges:

Pledge income received in July 2021	\$ 13,386
YTD 2021 pledge income as of July 31, 2021	\$226,961
YTD budgeted pledge income as of July 31, 2021	\$206,686
Variance of actual to budget pledge income as of July 31, 2021	\$ 20,274
YTD 2019 pledges as of July 31, 2020	\$182,334
YTD income as of July 31, 2021	\$277,742
YTD expense as of July 31, 2021	<u>\$268,867</u>
YTD income over expense July 31, 2021	\$ 8,875

Also, in order to reduce postage, paper usage and office expenses, statements will now be delivered to you via email. Please make sure we have a current email address on file for you. If you do not have email, a paper copy of your statement will still be mailed to you via US postal service.

If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions, please call the office or email me at

bookkeeper@stpaulsduluth.org

Christine Melone,
Bookkeeper

Deadline for submissions to the
October issue of *The Messenger* is
8:00 am, Tuesday, September 21, 2021.

Please email items to:
office@stpaulsduluth.org

Eucharistic Visitor Training on September 25

The next Eucharistic Visitor training will take place on Saturday, September 25 at 9:00 am in the church.

Communicants in good standing are welcome to attend. Everyone who attends must read "[A Manual for Eucharistic Visitors](#)" by Beth Wickenberg Ely and must bring their completed ECMN [application form](#) signed by their rector and senior warden. Eucharistic Visitors must attend Safe Church training before making home visits. Deacon Pat will be offering this in the Fall. To learn more about the ECMN requirements to be a Eucharistic Visitor please click [here](#) and read page 24 and 52. Please note that Eucharistic Visitors must now have a background check in compliance with the Safe Church policy for volunteers. If you have yet to have a background check completed, please download and complete the ECMN [background check release form](#). ECMN website is www.episcopalmn.org

Website Assistance Needed

We're looking for a St. Paul's Webmaster! If you or anyone you know has some skills and proficiency in uploading content and updating websites, please contact Nancy Schuldt or Eirik Rennan for more information. There is so much happening at St. Paul's, and so much more in the works, we need to keep our virtual window to the world as current as possible. This is not a request for redesigning our website (but good ideas are always welcome!); that will be coming soon as we polish our internet presence during our rector search. But if you have an hour or two a week to help post new content and clean up the old, we invite you to be part of this important way we communicate far and wide the good news of our ministries.



The future of health begins with you



The *All of Us* Research Program is inviting one million people across the U.S. to help build one of the most diverse health databases in history. We welcome participants from all backgrounds. Researchers will use the data to learn how our biology, lifestyle, and environment affect health. This may one day help them find ways to treat and prevent disease. You will receive a map showing where from where your ancestors come.

<https://participant.joinallofus.org/#/register>

Respectfully submitted,
Joel Bamford

From Your Vestry—by David Clanaugh



Am I the only one feeling tired within this shroud of uncertainty? Yet, daily I count my blessings: a loving partner and healthy family; steady employment; family trips and time together; a bountiful garden; a really awesome faith community.

I must admit, however, that loss and grief haunt me. It is traumatic navigating an “endless” pandemic in combination with serious evidence of climate change. When the smoke clears, Duluth seems more like Missouri. The garden has required constant coaxing with interminable watering, but I have never harvested such large peppers so soon. Change means things are lost and things are gained.

Although tinged with loss and grief, I can only imagine what it has been like for our elders and our young folks. So many life cycle activities stripped away, whether attending funerals for beloved friends or making beloved friends at summer camp. And other life cycle experiences like serious illness occurring in a context that makes it harder to access support and comfort. I think of our interim rector, who arrived eager to hit the ground running and instead ran into serious health issues and surgeries, while at a distance from family and friends. Yet Mother Debra has adjusted and persevered.

As a new vestry member I am daunted by all the transition tasks before us, yet filled with a shared sense of responsibility. I am humbled by reading a three-page tracking document recently updated by Senior Warden Nancy Schuldt. Although much work remains ahead, I counted 23 “dones” and five “ongoings/in progresses.” I share this to invite you to celebrate so much being accomplished, even as we move into our rector search and contemplate a capital campaign. It’s important during the fatigue, uncertainty, and grief to retain awareness of and gratitude for all the groundwork that has been laid.

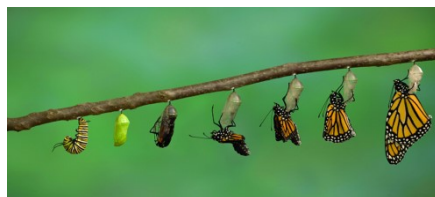
Having attended two Faith in Our Future meetings, I have witnessed diverse dreams, worries, and emotions. All of these are real. They require thoughtful sharing and compassionate listening. They also require the courage and humility to directly and constructively ap-

proach one another to find our way forward. Community is at the heart of our journey, yet community has been challenging to sustain when we have not been able to gather and worship freely and fully.

I think there are four main things to embrace as we move forward:

1. Recognizing, honoring, and supporting each another in the mix of our emotions. We are navigating many losses and bearing significant grief. Being present with each other is really important right now. This is hard given the unpredictability of the pandemic and all the tasks that need attention. Prayer, however, binds and sustains us no matter what the barriers may be.
2. Recognizing the incredible amount of work accomplished to date, especially through the leadership of our senior and junior wardens. When I survey all the work that has happened and the tasks marked “done,” I am filled with the spirit of people in our community sharing and multiplying their gifts. With such abundant giftedness, we have an invincible basis for being people of hope.
3. Being gentle and gracious with each other. We must presume good intentions, own our blind spots, and communicate directly with each other our questions, concerns, and suggestions. We must embrace forgiveness and reconciliation as modeled in the Gospels and Epistles.
4. In the midst of so much transition, it is vital to recognize our strengths as a community. I truly believe we are being called to respond from this core of who we are as a community to envision, shape, and embody a fruitful future as Episcopalian Christians within this community and region.

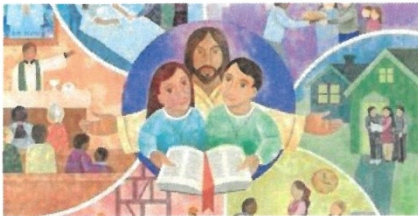
*Respectfully submitted,
David Clanaugh*



Faith FORMATION

for All Ages

Children & Youth



Our Season for Formation is beginning!

Parents, children, and

youth, please come to Rally Day on September 12, 2021, and register your young ones for Youth Faith Formation. You can also register now with this link:

<https://www.stpaulsfaithformation.org/2021-22-family-faith-plan.html>

Leadership will continue to monitor the changing COVID-19 Pandemic. We want everyone to be safe, healthy, and holy!

Our Formation planning team includes: our two Vestry Liaisons, our Senior Warden, and Mother Debra, with input from Faith Guides. Together we are preparing a flexible approach to our Faith Formation programming. Our hope is to offer an option for in person (wear masks), along with hybrid (zoom) for Formation gatherings. Let's give a big "THANK YOU!" to Joanne Erspamer who is organizing the Faith Formation Opportunities for our children and youth!



Details are evolving, and here is what you need to know:

- Youth Faith Formation will begin in October on the First Sunday of the Month – October 3rd, 2021
- Youth Faith Formation will meet on the first Sunday of the month, during

church, so it is easy to remember – **"First Sunday Faith Formation!"**

- All ages will have an opportunity to gather – PreK through Confirmation
- The plan is to start with achievable goals for now. This means Youth Faith Formation will be offered one time per month – it may expand to two times per month if we have enough volunteer support
- The plans will be re-evaluated each season – the Fall sessions will carry us to Advent
- New Offerings: Mother Debra or another member will incorporate a children's message in the Service for some of the Sundays when Formation is not offered.
- The Youth Faith Formation plan will be communicated by email, in the messenger, and on the St. Paul's [Website](#), seasonally to allow for flexibility.
- Confirmation Class will be offered on Wednesday evenings on a set schedule. Contact Jason Butcher jasonbutch@gmail.com for more information.

Please reach out to Joanne Erspamer at JoanneErspamer@gmail.com if you would like to volunteer to be a faith guide or if you have any questions.

Adult Faith Formation

All Adult Faith Formation will begin in October.

2nd Thursdays: Adult Formation

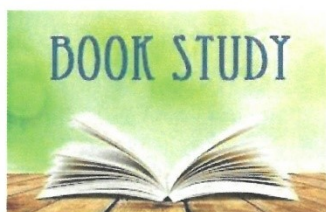


Come join “2nd Thursdays” Faith Formation for Adults on the second Thursday of

each month from 7:00-8:30 pm in hybrid format – live in the parish hall and available by zoom link. Topics will vary each month. Each month will be independent, so watch the calendar to see if a topic strikes your fancy or come as often as you can! Topics may include: Speakers from our Partner Ministries, Church growth and Congregational Development, Transition Topics, Spiritual Tools, and more. Please reach out to Mother Debra at Interim.Rector@stpaulsduluth.org to learn more, make suggestions, or if you have any questions.

Seasonal Book Studies

A Book Study will be offered each season: Fall, Winter, and Spring for approximately 6-8 weeks each. Each book will focus on topics related to “Building a more just and compassionate community.” The offerings will



take place at St. Paul’s with dates and times to be determined. Look for more information in the Messenger, weekly announcements, and on the website. Contact Deacon Pat deacon@stpaulsduluth.org for more information.

Bible Study



We are currently looking to determine

interest in and what would be the best time for Bible Study. If you are interested, please contact Zabelle Stodola kzstodola@ualr.edu to learn more and express your interest. This offering could take place in person and/or virtually.

Safe Church Training



In person and/or virtual, depending on COVID rates, training will be taking place at St.

Paul’s sometime this Fall. This training is necessary for vestry, Faith Formation leaders, staff, and anyone who has keys to the building. Day and time to be determined. Look for more information in the Messenger, weekly announcements, and the website. Contact Carol Andrews carol_andrews@hotmail.com for more information.

We hope these details help you plan out your involvement in St. Paul’s Faith Formation Programming. We look forward to beginning again and supporting one another in God’s Love as we transition to Fall. We are hopeful that in Advent and beyond, we will be able to expand our offerings.

The Deacon's Stoop



“Where there is deep love, miracles happen.” While this is clearly true in any marriage where unique individuals become one. I think it also true of this community of St. Paul’s. Your deep love for each other is palpable. I’ve had so many people contact me to check on

someone who is homebound, or isolated, or receiving medical care. I’ve watched you return to worship together, smiles crinkling your eyes as you greet each other, as you follow safety protocols while longing to hug each other, as you linger to chat after church.

Where there is deep love, miracles happen.

My son and his bride-to-be moved from Hong Kong to Tucson in August. April was born in Hong Kong and lived most of her life there. She graduated from UC Berkeley in 2015, and spent the last six years in Hong Kong, among family and friends, speaking Chinese without having to think about word choice, eating familiar food, recognizing coins (why are dimes smaller than nickels?) and knowing which way to look when crossing the street. In almost every situation she knew the options, what to expect.

So now they are in Tucson, preparing to marry. April’s college roommate is officiating and Nick’s best friend and his wife will be their witnesses. They just discovered Nick’s friends are not vaccinated. Like most of America, and most of Duluth, they have a distinct division around Covid regarding safety, efficacy, and which sources are right, which sources to believe. April is horrified, feeling unsafe, experiencing the very real culture shock of moving to a place where anyone would even think about travelling by air and staying with them for a week without being vaccinated. From her perspective it feels like an endangerment, and she finds it deeply offensive that this conversation is happening now, days before the nuptials.

Nick has a different perspective, grounded in relationship. He assumed, because they have so many other things in common they would have similar views on this, too. He is genuinely curious, not agreeing but wanting to understand his best friend, seeking some reconciliation between the love of his life and his best friend.

What April finds threatening, Nick finds curious. His questions come from a place of seeking to understand, while April’s come from a place of fear and very real risk. Her best friend is officiating the wedding, and works in a hospi-

tal. Staying together in a small apartment for several days under these circumstances is extremely difficult and presents a prime opportunity for exposure.

Where there is deep love, miracles happen.

Both best friends are coming and the wedding will proceed as planned. Nick and April are setting up a document describing behavioral protocols they are able to accept, but neither really likes the outcome. After a lot of painful conversations all around, and quite a few tears, a miracle happened. It happened because of deep love, a love that endures all things. Too much. Far too much to manage emotionally in the course of two weeks in the US, especially after the year we’ve all just had.

Here at St. Paul’s, we’ve had the same year. While I’m thrilled to be here, you’ve come back to so much change. Too much. The clergy and staff have changed. The programs have changed. The schedule has changed. There are people who haven’t returned. Hard decisions have been made, are still being made, and like Nick and April, they are uncovering some very deep foundational differences, expressing in anger, in tears. Can St. Paul’s endure so much?

Where there is deep love, miracles happen. I’ve seen that love in you.

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil, but rejoices in the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

Love never fails.

Love never fails.

Love never fails.

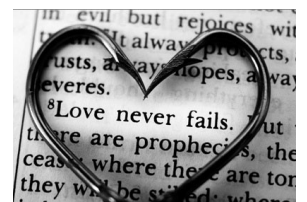
We are still in the midst of change, still figuring out how fall programming will work, still discovering who is no longer with us. Still assessing where we are and who we are and who we want to be. Through all of this, remember you are beloved. Remember to love. Be love.

Respectfully submitted,

Deacon Patricia Benson

Email: Deacon@stpaulsduluth.org

Phone: 218-724-3535



Call For Acolytes at St. Paul's

Greetings to all and welcome back to the steady normalizing of services at St. Paul's. As the new director of acolytes, it is my pleasure to extend an invitation for the return of acolytes in our services. Our plan is to have training immediately after the Sunday service on the 22, 29, and September 5, and, assuming all goes well, the we will have acolytes return to the services, starting on Rally Sunday. Attending all three is not required, but you are certainly welcome to if you feel like you need a little more training. Also, as a departure from the past, we are extending a welcome to any adults who would be interested in serving as an acolyte as well. If you are interested, or if



you know of someone who might be interested, by all means let me know.

Should you have any questions, please email me. I work overnights, so email is by far the best way to reach me as I sleep during the day. I hope that you are all well, and I hope to see you soon.

Respectfully submitted,

Matt Gustafson

gustafsonsu@aol.com

Confirmations and Baptisms

On Saturday, August 21, 2021, we welcomed The Rt. Rev. Craig Loya, X Bishop of the Episcopal Church in Minnesota, to St. Paul's to celebrate Holy Baptism (four of them!), Confirmation, and Holy Eucharist. We had a wonderful service, with 175 attendees supporting all the candidates. Twelve youth from St. Paul's were confirmed, as well as three people from St. James (Hibbing).

Many thanks to everyone involved, especially:

to Bishop Craig Loya, for travelling to Duluth for us, for his enthusiasm for our youth, and for preaching a spellbinding sermon;

to Jessica Ricardo, Missioner to the Bishop, for her assistance in planning the Confirmation;

to The Rev. Debra J. Kissinger, Interim Rector, for her assistance in planning the service;

to Karen Allison, who joyfully served as our Confirmation Faith Guide for the past six years;

to Jason Butcher, who bravely accepted the call to be the new Faith Guide for Confirmation;

to all the parents of our Confirmands, for supporting your child's faith journey throughout the years — bringing them on Wednesday nights, helping them log into Zoom, and so much more;

to St. Paul's Altar Guild, for all their extra effort in creating a beautiful liturgical environment;

to our parishioners, who held the youth in their prayers and served as godparents, prayer partners, role models and faith mentors;

to Lynnea Hultkrantz, for producing the lovely St. Paul's fans;

to Judy Harvey, for bringing so many lovely flowers from her garden;

to Terry Roberts and Judy Harvey, for hosting the reception after the service;

to Rick & Heidi Lyle, Craig Fellman and Eirik Rennan for setting up and taking down all the tables and chairs for the reception.



St. Francis Day Celebration

Our St. Francis Day celebration and blessing of the animals will take place on Sunday, October 3. Bring your pets (or pictures of them) to church that day for a blessing and remember St. Francis's love of all beings as you participate in the service. Don't forget to invite your friends; it's an easy way to encourage someone to visit St. Paul's.

Saint Francis of Assisi (1182 - 1226) is probably the most popular Christian saint. His radiant spirit is a beacon for those seeking a life of meaning and service. It does no good to put him on a pedestal; rather we should walk with St. Francis on the path of peace, openness, mysticism, poverty, reverence for nature, and love of animals. There are plenty of spiritual resources on his remarkable life and his spiritual practices. Consider trying one of these!



- ◆ Express your gratitude. Adopt St. Francis's words "My God and my all!" as a sacred prayer and repeat it often through the day.
- ◆ Spend some quality time in the company of an animal. Here's a story from *Living the Wisdom of St. Francis* about how St. Francis communed with a bird: "Once when Saint Francis was about to eat with Brother Leo, he was greatly delighted to hear a nightingale singing. So, he suggested to his companion that they would also sing praise to God alternately with the bird. While Leo was pleading that he was no singer, Francis lifted up his voice and, phrase by phrase, sang his duet with the nightingale."



- ◆ Take a spiritual journey to see how the spirit of Francis of Assisi has the power to liberate our lives today through "[The Spirituality of St. Francis](#)," an e-course by Jon M. Sweeney.

Prayerfully yours,
Mother Debra+

Hospital Visitation

If you or another member of St. Paul's you know ends up in the hospital, please call the parish office and let us know. Due to HIPAA rules, hospitals no longer call churches or release information about patients when clergy call to inquire if anyone from St. Paul's is a patient. Thank you.

Save the Date!

- Sunday, September 12, 10:00 am: Rally Day, Backpack Blessing & more!
- Friday-Sunday, September 24-26: BeFriender Ministry Training at St. Paul's
- Sunday, September 26, 10:00 am: Guest Preacher, John Cole, new Executive Director of CHUM
- Sunday, October 3, 10:00 am: St. Francis & the Blessing of the Animals
- Sunday, October 24, 10:00 am: Service of Lament & Thanksgiving
- Sunday, November 7, 10:00 am: All Saints Day
- Sunday, November 28, 10:00 am: First Sunday of Advent



LAY MINISTRY SCHEDULE –SEPTEMBER 2021

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

	September 5	September 12	September 19	September 26	October 3
ALTAR GUILD	K LEONARD	C CONRAD	J MARINAC	J JARNIS	K LEONARD
	J Harvey	S Hall	J Elliott	D Kolquist	J Harvey
	L Hultkrantz	S Hartley	C Miller	A Schliep	L Hultkrantz
		A Sadowski		R Ballou-Buck	
LECTOR	S Stromquist	K Smith	J Pastor	M Gustafson	Z Stodola
USHERS	M & S Brown	R Lyle	D Morin	C & B Dinan	
	D Kolquist	P Waite	K Swanson	G Olson	
		M Gustafson	D Barthel	P Enenbach	
LOCK UP	J Austin	M Brown	C Fellman	G Maloney	J Austin
LEMONADE	N Constance	RALLY DAY	E Rennan	K Smith	M Gustafson

Altar Guild Other Duties for September:

September Linens:

L Hultkrantz, J Harvey; Subs: C Conrad, C Miller

Sept/Oct Brass Cleaning:

C Miller, J Jarnis, A Abraham, D Kolquist; Brass Subs: J Sederberg, C Miller

Attention Altar Guild Members!

Be sure to mark your calendars for our
Fall Altar Guild Meeting.

Saturday, October 16 at 9:00 am in the Olcott Room
Hope to see you all there - we have a lot to catch up on!



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

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Visit our website:
www.stpaulsduluth.org

Rally Day, Sunday September 12!

It's that time of year to kick off the fall return from summer vacations and to hold Rally Day Sunday September 12! We hope that the weather will cooperate and this will be a fantastic outside yard event that day. As we return, everyone, including children, are asked to mask up at this time.

On Rally Day children will be called out of church at the beginning of worship and escorted outside during service to play on the 7-Elements inflatable obstacle course and to work on projects at craft stations. Supervision will be provided by teen youth who have signed up for a "Service Project." If your teen is interested in volunteering for a Service Project that day, please contact Amber Sadowski to sign up: sadowski.amber@gmail.com.



After church, parents will come outside and meet up with their kids and there will be food for all. Of course the fan favorite—the Rector Dunk tank—will be available as a church fundraiser and the Ministry Fair will be hosted by the Vestry to showcase the committees of St. Paul's and share various ways that members can get involved in our ministry.

Sunday School planning is also underway and we are greatly in need of teachers for the year to assist our youth program. If you're interested in teaching, please contact Joanne Erspamer joanneerspamer@gmail.com. Be sure to register your child for the Sunday School year at <https://www.stpaulsfaithformation.org/children.html>. At the bottom of the page, click Family Faith Plan 2021-2022 to register online! Thank you.