



St. Paul
Ann Arbor

Sowing **truth**. Building **faith**. Shining **love**.



Lies
Satan
Loves
to Tell

Welcome to Worship

October 26, 2025

8:30 AM, Downtown Campus



St. Paul Lutheran
Church of Ann Arbor

At St. Paul Ann Arbor, we equip families and
individuals to know Christ, to discover truth,
and to create meaningful connections.

Reformation Sunday

Sunday, October 26, 2025 (8:30 AM)

One church with two locations:

Downtown Campus

420 W. Liberty St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48103

Worship:

Saturdays @ 6:30 PM
Sundays @ 8:30 AM

Discipleship Hour:

Sundays @ 9:45 AM

Earhart Campus

495 Earhart Rd.
Ann Arbor, MI 48105

Worship:

Sundays @ 10:45 AM

Discipleship Hour:

Sundays @ 9:45 AM



Welcome to our guests!

We're glad you're here! We ask that you fill out your name and an email or phone number in the black folder at the end of the row so we can connect with you. One of St. Paul's core values is unity so we'd like to help you get connected. On the back page of this worship folder, you'll find groups and events that are for you. May God bless you today!

The flowers in the chancel

The flowers in the chancel have been placed to the glory of God by Tim & Barbara Adler in honor of Robert and Harry Laughlin.

If you have children

We welcome and encourage all children (yes, babies too!) to worship the Lord at St. Paul. If your child becomes restless during the service, don't worry! We get it. If you'd like to use it, there is a cry room available at the rear of the church and a nursery located below the main worship entrance. Children's bulletins and activity bags are available at each worship entrance. The hospitality team will be happy to assist you.

About Holy Communion

St. Paul is a confessional Lutheran congregation sharing the beliefs and practices of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS). Following the Word of Jesus, we believe that the Lord's Supper is more than a symbol. Jesus gives His people His true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins through the bread and wine. In Holy Communion, Jesus not only gives these gifts, He unites us in a confession of faith. We confess that God has given His gift of salvation in baptism. We confess that we are sinners who need the forgiveness that Jesus offers by His death and resurrection. We confess that God speaks in His inspired Word, the Bible. We confess that God is one God, the Father who created all things, the Son Jesus the Savior, and the Holy Spirit who dwells in His people by faith. Alongside this confession of faith, the Holy Spirit is at work in those who receive the Supper to live according to God's Word and remain true to God, even to death, shining Jesus' love inside and outside of God's church. If you share this confession, we invite you to receive Christ's body and blood with us. If you do not share these beliefs, please talk to a pastor before communing though you are invited to come forward during Communion distribution with arms crossed to receive a blessing and the assurance of God's love in Jesus Christ. We're glad you're at St. Paul!

Discipleship Hour & Christ Connections

You're invited to gather after the service for coffee, donuts, fellowship and Bible study for adults and children! Sundays at 9:45 AM. Adults meet in Fellowship Hall (lower-level) and children ages 3 through grade 5 meet in the lower-level preschool classrooms.

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

RINGING OF THE BELL

WORDS OF WELCOME

HYMN

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"



LSB# 656

WE CALL UPON THE NAME OF GOD

The sign of the cross ✠ may be made in remembrance of your Baptism.

*Invocation
Matthew 28:19b*

P: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen!**

WE TURN TO GOD, MINDFUL OF OUR SINFULNESS

Confession of Sins

THE LIE: "Life will be better if you seize more control."

P: Most of us prefer to be in control of our lives—making decisions, asserting authority. We know what's best, at least for ourselves. And when it's within reach, desiring just a little more power to maintain even more control and greater confidence is very attractive. However, Satan is very skilled, and cleverly twists our reasoning so that "seizing more power" begins to settle in as our normal way of thinking. There is a dangerous dividing line between power that is helpful and needed, and control that is abused.

With this in mind, let us consider our own desire for control and power:

C: **Heavenly Father, we are often slow to see or remember that You are the Creator of all things. You own everything. You manage everything. You provide everything. You have given us the task to steward Your creation. Without thinking, we have pursued more control over things that are not ours to manage. We have been drawn to even small gains in power—thinking, "we could do it better."**

P: This subtle lie of Satan fits easily into our self-centered minds... from our perspective, a little more power is better. However, it eventually leads us to distrust and contempt for others, and perhaps toward God Himself.

C: **Forgive us, Father, for all the times when "my will be done" was far from "Your will be done". Re-train our pride to live within Your gift of humility. Strengthen us by Your Spirit to reject Satan's lie, and daily acknowledge Your power in and above all things. Amen.**

(We observe a moment of quiet reflection as we consider our own sinful condition)

GOD TURNS TO US, EAGER TO FORGIVE

Absolution
(with Matthew 4:8–11)

- P: We crave control. We believe that if we just had more power over our lives, our circumstances, our future, even other people... things would be better. This is one of Satan's oldest lies: "Life will be better if you seize more control." But Jesus shows us a different way by rejecting the devil's temptation to take power for Himself and humbly surrendering to the Father's will: *"The devil took [Jesus] to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. [And the devil said to Him,] 'All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.'"*
- C: ***"Jesus said to him, 'Be gone, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God and Him only shall you serve.'"* Then the devil left Him."**
- P: Jesus was given the opportunity to seize control of His own destiny—to avoid all the ugliness of human life *and death*. Satan's way would be much easier, but Jesus knew that such a choice would up-end the world to everlasting destruction, division, and violence. Instead, Jesus committed to everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness. He committed to the cross that brings eternal Life for all who would believe in Him. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, in His place and by His authority, I forgive you for all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: **Amen!**



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Collect

- P: Almighty and gracious God, Creator and Owner of all things, pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your faithful people. Keep us ever steadfast in Your grace and truth, protect and deliver us in times of temptation. Defend us from all lies of the enemy, and grant to Your Church Your wisdom and saving peace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C: **Amen.**

We Hear the Word of God

REFORMATION PSALM ✠ Psalm 46



All: REFRAIN

P: God is our refuge | and our strength,
our only help in | trouble.*

**C: Therefore, we will not fear though the | earth give way*
and the mountains fall into the heart | of the sea;**

P: though its waters | roar and foam,
and the mountains quake with their | surging.*

All: REFRAIN

P: There is a river whose streams make glad the ci- | ty of God,
the Holy Place where the | Most High dwells.*

**C: God is within her, she | will not fall; *
God will help her at | break of day.**

*P: Nations are in uproar, | kingdoms fall; *
He lifts His voice, the | earth melts.*

All: REFRAIN



*P: The Lord Almighty is | with us;**
the God of Jacob is our | fortress.

C: Come and see the works | of the Lord, *
the desolations He has brought | on the earth.

*P: He makes wars to cease to the ends | of the earth;**
He breaks the bow and shatters the spear, He burns the | shields with fire.

C: "Be still and know that | I am God; *
I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted | in the earth."



EPISTLE ✠ Romans 3:19–28

¹⁹ Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰ For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

²¹ But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— ²² the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. ²⁶ It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. ²⁷ Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸ For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law. (ESV)

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

CHOIR ANTHEM

Wade in the Water

arr. Greg Gilpin (b. 1964)

*Wade in the water, wade in the water, children.
Wade in the water. God is gonna trouble the water.*

*See that host all dressed in white. God is gonna trouble the water.
The leader looks like the Israelite. God is gonna trouble the water.
See that band all dressed in red. God is gonna trouble the water.
Looks like the band that Moses led. God is gonna trouble the water.*

*If you don't believe, believe I've been redeemed.
Just follow me, follow me down to Jordan's stream.*

HOLY GOSPEL..... ✠ Luke 18:9–17

⁹ [Jesus] also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt: ¹⁰ “Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹ The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. ¹² I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.’ ¹³ But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, a sinner!’ ¹⁴ I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted.”

¹⁵ Now they were bringing even infants to him that he might touch them. And when the disciples saw it, they rebuked them. ¹⁶ But Jesus called them to him, saying, “Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God. ¹⁷ Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it.” (ESV)

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**



HYMN

"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

 (LSB# 549)



1 All hail the pow'r of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros-trate fall;
 3 Ye seed of Is - rael's cho - sen race, Ye ran - somed from the fall,
 5 Sin - ners, whose love can ne'er for - get The worm-wood and the gall,
 6 Let ev - 'ry kin-dred, ev - 'ry tribe, On this ter - res-trial ball



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem And crown Him Lord of all.
 Hail Him who saves you by His grace And crown Him Lord of all.
 Go, spread your tro-phies at His feet And crown Him Lord of all.
 To Him all maj - es - ty as - cribe And crown Him Lord of all.



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem And crown Him Lord of all.
 Hail Him who saves you by His grace And crown Him Lord of all.
 Go, spread your tro-phies at His feet And crown Him Lord of all.
 To Him all maj - es - ty as - cribe And crown Him Lord of all.

MESSAGE

"Satan's Lie: Life Will Be Better if You Seize More Control"

Luke 18:9-17

Rev. Dr. Ted Hopkins

RESPONSE

(Tune: LSB# 549)

**Keep humbleness and mercy well,
 Let Jesus hear your call
 To name Him King; His mercies tell,
 And crown Him Lord of all.
 To name Him King; His mercies tell,
 And crown Him Lord of all!**

Text: ©2025 Kirchenlied S. Schreiber, b. 1685

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church;
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.

We Worship the Lord with Our Offerings

During the Offering, we invite your participation in our Ritual of Friendship. Please fill in the requested information on the Friendship Pad (which is located at the end of the pew at the center aisle) and pass it down the pew. Also, as the pad is returned, please take note of who is worshipping with you in order that you might greet them following the service.

(For electronic and convenient giving options, see the end of this worship folder)

VOLUNTARY

The Prayers We Bring to God



- P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.
- P: O Lord of hosts, we give You glory and thanks for being our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble, especially on this Reformation festival. Lord, in Your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.
- P: Thank You for the gift of Your grace that alone sets us free through the blood of Your Son, Jesus. Lord, in Your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.
- P: Faithful and forgiving God, thank You for bringing us to faith in You. It is through this faith alone that we are saved. Grow us in Your grace and guide us by Your Spirit in living our faith daily. Lord, in Your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.
- P: O Word who became flesh and dwelt among us, You have given us the Word of Life. Strengthen us by Your Word. Lead and guide us by Your truth. Give Your church on earth faithful pastors who preach and teach the Gospel in all its purity. Lord, in Your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.
- P: Lord Jesus, You are the One who sets us free. In You alone our hope is found. You are our strength and our refuge. Remember all who face adversity of any kind, [*especially...*]. Comfort, strengthen, and heal them by Your Holy Spirit. Lord, in Your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.
- P: Preserve Your church, O Lord, and each of us as members of Christ's Body, that we may not surrender the true Gospel for any reason but be kept in this faith and fear throughout the days of our earthly pilgrimage, until that day when we and all Your people shall stand before the judgment seat of Christ to receive the reward You have prepared for us and all who have loved His appearing. To You alone be all power and glory, now and forever.
C: Amen.

PRAYERS for THIS DAY

(As prompted) *P: Lord, in Your mercy,*
C: hear our prayer.

P: Into Your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who taught us to pray:

The Lord's Prayer
Matthew 6:9-13

C: **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**



A Foretaste of the Great Feast in Heaven

CHRIST'S WORDS ESTABLISH THE LORD'S SUPPER

Words of Institution
1 Corinthians 11:23-25

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: *Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of me.* In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them saying: *Drink of it, all of you; this is My blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.*

THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Pax Domini
John 20:19

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **Amen! The peace of Christ be with us all.**

PREPARATION

(LSB# 563)

3 Lord, I be - lieve Thy pre - cious blood, Which at the
4 Lord, I be - lieve, were sin - ners more Than sands up -
mer - cy seat of God Pleads for the cap - tives'
on the o - cean shore, Thou hast for all a
lib - er - ty, Was al - so shed in love for me.
ran - som paid, For all a full a - tone - ment made.

WE COME TO THE LORD'S TABLE

Communion Distribution

Please note before receiving Holy Communion: *Please read the brief statement of our beliefs, "About Holy Communion", found at the beginning of our worship folder. Our pastors would be happy to meet with you to discuss our beliefs further, and help prepare you for Communion.*



Hymns: "By Grace I'm Saved"
"Thy Strong Word"
"If Your Beloved Son, O God"

LSB# 566

LSB# 578

LSB# 568

WORDS OF PEACE AND JOY

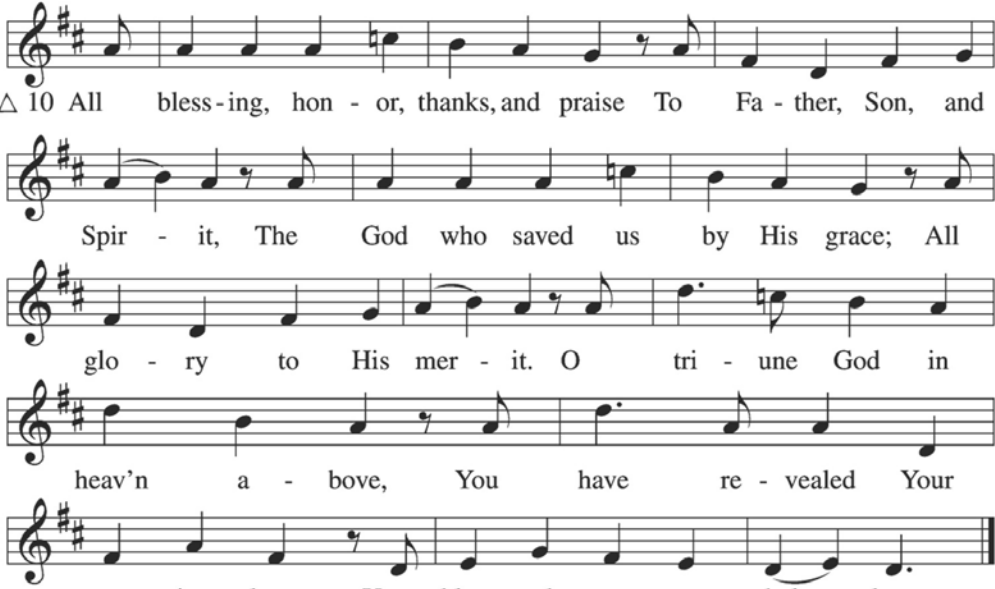
Communicants' Dismissal

P: Now may this Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart in ☩ peace!

C: **Amen.**

WE DEPART WITH THANKS AND PRAISE

Post-Communion Canticle (LSB# 555)



△ 10 All bless-ing, hon - or, thanks, and praise To Fa - ther, Son, and
Spir - it, The God who saved us by His grace; All
glo - ry to His mer - it. O tri - une God in
heav'n a - bove, You have re - vealed Your
sav - ing love; Your bless - ed name we hal - low.

DON'T LISTEN TO THE LIE

THE LIE

P: Life will be better if you seize more control.

THE TRUTH

C: **Life will be better when we let Jesus be our Lord.**

TAKING IT HOME

Luke 18:13–14 (ESV)

P: [Of the parable, Jesus said,] "The tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!'

C: **I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other."**

WE RECEIVE THE BLESSING OF GOD

Benediction
Numbers 6:24–26

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with His favor and ✠ give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN

"Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word"



(LSB# 655)

1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in Your Word; Curb those who
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, Your pow'r make known, For You are
3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, Send peace and

by de - ceit or sword Would wrest the king - dom from Your
Lord of lords a - lone; De - fend Your ho - ly Church that
u - ni - ty on earth; Sup - port us in our fi - nal

Son And bring to naught all He has done.
we May sing Your praise e - ter - nal - ly.
strife And lead us out of death to life.



Our Worship Servants

Liturgist: Rev. Aaron Roggow
Preacher: Rev. Dr. Ted Hopkins
Lay Reader: Matt Zaske
Director of Music: Dr. John Boonenberg
Choir Director: Lisa Altevogt
Choir: 5th/6th Grade School Choir
Family Worship Team: Tim & Barbara Adler
Hospitality: Julie Burgess
Elder: Neil Skov

Printed liturgy and hymns from Lutheran Service Book, created by Lutheran Service Builder ©2006 Concordia Publishing House.

Unless otherwise noted, all Scripture quotations are taken from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version® (ESV®).

Copyright ©2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

The "ESV" and "English Standard Version" are registered trademarks of Crossway. Use of either trademark requires the permission of Crossway.



St. Paul Stephen Ministry

Are you feeling overwhelmed, grieving a loss, or navigating a health crisis? SPAA is here for you. Our trained Stephen Ministers offer compassionate, confidential, and Christ-centered care, providing the support you need during challenging times. Contact Cherise Callahan at 734-395-8775 to connect with a Stephen Minister who will offer a listening ear and a caring heart.

Our Offerings and Gifts

Looking for different options to financially support the ministry of St. Paul through your regular offerings or one-time gifts?



Just text "GIVE" to **734-436-3634**

(This will also allow you to set up a recurring gift if you choose.)

Online: <https://www.kindridgiving.com/app/giving/stpaulaa>



Mail checks to: St. Paul Lutheran Church
420 W Liberty St
Ann Arbor, MI 48103



For more giving information, go to: <https://www.stpaulannarbor.org/give/>

2025-2026 SPAA Attendance and Offering			
Month	Attendance	Offering	Budget
July	278	\$ 85,561	\$ 103,200
August	292	\$ 92,582	\$ 129,100
September	364	\$ 108,717	\$ 106,200
October	-	\$ -	\$ 106,200
November	-	\$ -	\$ 132,800
December	-	\$ -	\$ 123,200
January	-	\$ -	\$ 106,200
February	-	\$ -	\$ 107,400
March	-	\$ -	\$ 135,200
April	-	\$ -	\$ 114,900
May	-	\$ -	\$ 132,800
June	-	\$ -	\$ 104,800
YTD	311	\$ 286,860	\$ 1,402,000



News & Upcoming Events

For more news & events visit our webpage at: www.stpaulannarbor.org

High School Youth Bowling Party – November 2nd

Come join us on Sunday, November 2nd from 6-8pm for a fun night at the bowling alley! Dress up in your best costume outfit and get ready for some friendly competition and laughter. We're asking \$10 per person to help cover food costs, but if that's too much—no worries, you're still welcome! And if you bring a friend, their cost is covered. Event Address: Saline 300 830 Woodland Dr E, Saline, MI 48176 Contact Tyler if you have questions at: tseehafer@stpaulannarbor.org!



Bach Vespers – Sunday, November 9th at 4pm Downtown Campus (420 W. Liberty St. Ann Arbor)

St. Paul Lutheran Church of Ann Arbor is launching a new Bach Vespers series, presenting the beloved cantatas, passions, and oratorios of Johann Sebastian Bach in their original context—the beautiful Vespers liturgy. Professional soloists and orchestra join Ann Arbor community singers, the St. Paul Bach Choir, St. Paul Brass Ensemble, and The Boychoir of Ann Arbor in what is sure to become a wonderful tradition. The cantata for the November 9th performance is BWV 79, Gott der Herr ist Sonn und Schild. Join us for this opportunity to experience this exquisite repertoire in the manner it was presented in Bach's day! This free event is open to everyone in the community, so invite your friends and come join us for a wonderful evening!

Technology Milestone – for 5th & 6th grade families!

We invite all families with 5th and 6th graders to a new St. Paul Milestone class: the 5th and 6th Grade Technology Milestone. **Please join us via Zoom Thursday, November 13, from 6:30-7:30pm.** This class is for parents and students. You do not have to be a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church to join us! This will be a great opportunity for parents to share insights and strategies with each other and celebrate successes in appropriate use of technology within the home. Each family that participates will receive a free copy of "The Tech-Wise Family" by Andy Crouch. To request an email invite to this discussion forum or for more information, contact Lexie Brown, Director of Family Life Ministry at lbrown@stpaulannarbor.org.

Operation Christmas Child – Boxes due Sunday, November 16th!

It is that time of the year! The Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes are displayed and ready for you to take one (or more!) home, fill it, and then return it by Sunday, November 16th. For more details see info at the display tables.

Save the Date: Congregation Meeting – Sunday, November 23rd @ 12 PM

St. Paul members please plan to attend our next Congregation meeting on Sunday, November 23rd (sign in starts at noon) at our school campus (495 Earhart Rd). This will be an informational meeting – more details coming soon!