



St. Paul
Ann Arbor

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

Justification of the Ungodly



- The Radical Gospel in Romans -

Welcome to Worship

July 12, 2026

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.

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, July 12, 2026 (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:
(Resumes in September)

Earhart Campus
495 Earhart Rd.
Ann Arbor, MI 48105

Worship:
Sundays @ 10:15 AM

Discipleship Hour:
(Resumes in September)



Welcome to St. Paul Ann Arbor!

We are so glad you're here. At St. Paul, we value **unity**. Whether you are a long-time member or visiting for the first time, we want you to feel connected to one another and to the hope we have in Jesus.

Getting Connected

Our pastors would love to meet you! If they don't get a chance to greet you before the service, please stop by afterward to say hi.

- **The Black Folder:** Guests, please find the folder at the end of your row to share your name and contact info. We'd love to know more about you!
- **What's Next?** Flip to the back page of this worship folder to see upcoming events and groups for connecting with others and serving the community.

About Holy Communion

In Holy Communion, God's people gather as Jesus taught, united in what we believe. Sharing the beliefs and practices of the **Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS)**, we confess that this meal is more than a symbol. We confess (believe, speak, and live this truth):

- Jesus gives His true **body and blood** in the bread and wine of Holy Communion for the forgiveness of sins.
- God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—gives His gift of salvation in Baptism.
- We are sinners who need the gifts Jesus offers by His death and resurrection, as God promises in His inspired Word (the Bible).
- Holy Communion is something God gives His people as we gather for forgiveness and for the strength to live in God's Word by the Holy Spirit and to daily follow Jesus.

Should I commune? If you share this confession of faith, we welcome you to the table! If you have questions or hold different beliefs from those above, **we invite you to come forward for a blessing** (simply cross your arms over your chest). A pastor also would love to chat with you before or after the service to learn more.

Families with Children

We love having kids in worship! (Yes, even if they're wiggling or crying.) If you are here with children, please know there are Activity Bags and Children's Bulletins at any entrance. Need a break? A Cry Room is available at the rear of the sanctuary, while a nursery is located just below the main entrance. Our hospitality team is happy to guide you to any of these spots.

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

RINGING OF THE BELL

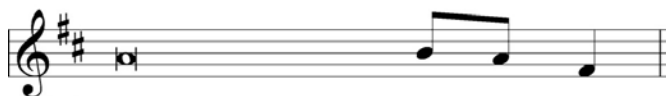
WORDS OF WELCOME

RESPONSIVE VERSES

Versicles
(LSB pg. 219)

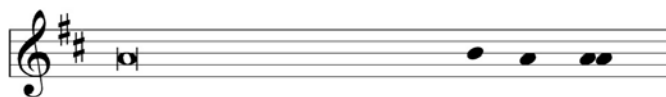


L O Lord, o - pen my lips,



C and my mouth will de - clare Your praise.

Psalms 51:15



L Make haste, O God, to de - liv - er me;



C make haste to help me, O Lord.

Psalms 70:1



C Glo - ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.



Common: Praise to You, O Christ. Al - le - lu - ia.

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Invitatory Antiphon
(LSB pg. 220)



L Blessed be God, the Fa-ther, the Son, and the Ho-ly Spir-it.



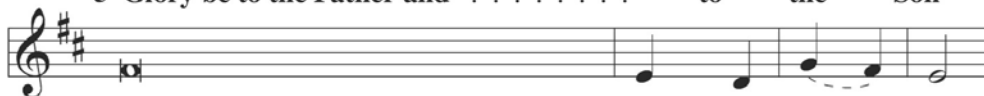
C O come, let us wor-ship Him.

WE COME BEFORE THE LORD

Venite (LSB pg. 220ff)
Psalms 95:1-7



C 1 O come, let us sing to the Lord,
2 For the Lord is a great God
3 The sea is His, for He made it,
5 Glory be to the Father and to the Son



1 let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal-va-tion.
2 and a great king a-bove all gods.
3 and His hand formed the dry land.
5 and to the Ho-ly Spir-it;



1 Let us come into His presence with thanks-giv-ing,
2 The deep places of the earth are in His hand;
3 O come, let us worship and bow down,
4 For He is our God,
5 as it was in the be-gin-nin-



1 let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise.
2 the strength of the hills is His al-so.
3 let us kneel before the Lord, our mak-er.
4 and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.
5 is now, and will be for ev-er. A-men.



Antiphon
(LSB pg. 221)

L Blessed be God, the Fa-ther, the Son, and the Ho-ly Spir-it.



C O come, let us wor-ship Him.

We Hear the Word of God

FIRST READING ✠ Romans 6

¹ What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? ² By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? ³ Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

⁵ For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶ We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷ For one who has died has been set free from sin. ⁸ Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹ We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰ For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. ¹¹ So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

¹² Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions. ¹³ Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness. ¹⁴ For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

¹⁵ What then? Are we to sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! ¹⁶ Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? ¹⁷ But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed, ¹⁸ and, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. ¹⁹ I am speaking in human terms, because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness leading to sanctification.

²⁰ For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. ²¹ But what fruit were you getting at that time from the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death. ²² But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the fruit you get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life. ²³ For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. (ESV)

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

HOLY GOSPEL ✠ Matthew 13:1–9, 18–23

¹ That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ² And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³ And he told them many things in parables, saying: "A sower went out to sow. ⁴ And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. ⁵ Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, ⁶ but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷ Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸ Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹ He who has ears, let him hear. ...

¹⁸ Hear then the parable of the sower: ¹⁹ When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path. ²⁰ As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, ²¹ yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away. ²² As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. ²³ As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty." (ESV)

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

HYMN

"Do You Not Know"



(Tune: LSB# 631)

**Do you not know that all who were baptized
Were baptized into Christ and in His death,
That, just as Christ was raised from death to life,
We, too, might share in His life-giving breath?**

**If we are one with Jesus in His death,
We know that we with Him will rise again,
For our old self was crucified with Him,
That we should now be free from sin's dark chain.**

**Now, if we died with Jesus, we believe
That we will also share His victory.
We know that since Christ rose again from death,
It can no longer have the mastery.**

**The death He died to sin was once for all,
But now He lives to God a life restored;
So also count yourselves as dead to sin
And now alive to God in Christ the Lord!**

Text: Christopher L. Webber © Theodore Presser (admin. by Carl Fischer)

MESSAGE

Seminarian Benjamin Brenner

Romans 6

RESPONSE

(Tune: LSB# 631)

**Thanks be to God for He has set us free
As slaves of sin and death, to righteousness;
No longer living under law we flee
To know His gift of grace, and Life possess!**

Text: ©2026 Kirchenlied S. Schreiber, b. 1685



We Worship the Lord with Our Offerings

During the Offering, please let us know you're here! For members and guests who have our Church Center app, we ask you to please take a moment to Check In and let us know you are in worship with us today. For our guests and members who do not have our Church Center app, we invite you to please fill in the requested information in the Friendship Pad (the black folder located at the end of the pew at the center aisle). Please pass it along for anyone else who might need it.

Want to give electronically? Simply scan the QR code here:
For other giving options, see the end of this worship folder.



VOLUNTARY

CANTICLE

"We Praise You and Acknowledge You, O God"

Te Deum, alt.
(LSB# 941)

1 We praise You and ac-knowl-edge You, O God, to be the Lord,
4 You sit in splen-did glo - ry, en-throned at God's right hand,
The Fa - ther ev - er - last - ing, by all the earth a - dored.
Up - hold - ing earth and heav - en by forc - es You com-mand.
To You all an - gel pow - ers cry a - loud, the heav - ens sing,
We know that You will come as our Judge that fi - nal day,
The cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim their prais - es to You bring:
So help Your ser-vants You have re-deemed by blood, we pray;
"O ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;
May we with saints be num - bered where prais - es nev - er end,
Your maj - es - ty and glo - ry fill the heav - ens and the earth!"
In glo - ry ev - er - last - ing. A - men, O Lord, a - men!



The Prayers We Bring to God



1 Timothy 2:1-4
Salutation

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: God invites us to approach His heavenly throne with all our needs.

C: **We enter the throne room of God, the Ruler of All Things.**

P: We come without fear, at His invitation.

C: **But we come in humility, like the blind men who called out to Jesus: "Lord, have mercy."**

LORD, HAVE MERCY

*Kyrie (LSB pg. 227)
Mark 10:47*



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

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.

Collects of Intercession & Thanksgiving

P: God of power and might, You showed Your greatest power in rescuing us sinners and setting us free from death; grant to us grace to use Your gift of liberty to show forth in our lives the righteousness of Christ, forsaking evil for good, and, by the power of Your Spirit, bearing the fruits of the Spirit in our lives; through Him who died that we might live and who now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

PRAYERS for THIS DAY

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

Collect for Grace

P: O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have safely brought us to the beginning of this day. Defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, nor run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

A Foretaste of the Great Feast in Heaven



WE TURN TO GOD, MINDFUL OF OUR SINFULNESS

Confession of Sins
Psalm 124:8, 130:3-4; Luke 18:13

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: **who made heaven and earth.**

P: If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C: **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

P: Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: *God, be merciful to me, a sinner.*

C: **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

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

GOD TURNS TO US, EAGER TO FORGIVE

Absolution

John 20:19–23

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you for all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen!**

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.*

Sharing the Peace of Christ

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

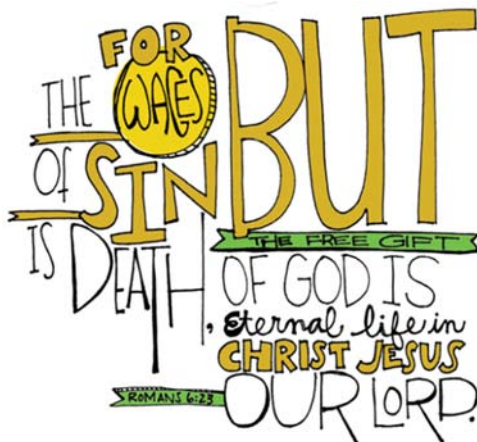
Pax Domini

C: **Amen.**

John 20:19

An ancient and significant gesture in worship is the **Sharing of Peace**. This tradition, rooted in Scripture (1 Peter 5:14; Romans 16:16), recognizes that one of the biggest dangers in the body of Christ is disunity— both from grievances not forgiven and from not knowing our neighbors. When we extend our hand to another, we identify with Jesus, who entered into our world, came to know humanity from the inside, and restored peace between God and all people. When we share the peace of Christ, we desire to know and be at peace with everyone who comes into our midst, especially those we are meeting for the first time.

“Peace be with you.” ☩ “The peace of Christ be with you.”



LAMB OF GOD

Agnus Dei (LSB pg. 210)
John 1:29

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

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: "God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It"
"Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus"

LSB# 594
LSB# 685

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 pg. 211)

1 O Lord, now let to Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three - in - One;
A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

TAKING IT HOME

Romans 6:9–11 (ESV)

P: "We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again;

C: Death no longer has dominion over him.

P: For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God.

C: So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus."

WE BLESS THE LORD

Benedicamus (LSB pg. 228)
Psalms 103:1

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

WE RECEIVE THE BLESSING OF GOD

Trinitarian Benediction (LSB pg. 228)
2 Corinthians 13:14

P: The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN

"We Know That Christ Is Raised"



(LSB# 603)

1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
2 We share by wa - ter in His sav - ing death.
3 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life.

Em-braced by death, He broke its fear - ful hold;
Re - born, we share with Him an Eas - ter life.
The Spir - it's pow - er shakes the Church of God.

And our de - spair He turned to blaz - ing joy.
As liv - ing mem - bers of a liv - ing Christ.
Bap - tized, we live with God the Three in One.

Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia!

POSTLUDE



The Flowers in the Chancel

The flowers in the chancel have been placed to the glory of God by Casey Salminen, remembering Oscar & Kay Haab on their anniversary (7/10/91), and for thirty years of their legacy through The Oscar & Keturah Haab Foundation, which has spread the Gospel through charities that do God's work through faith, education, and mission.

Our Worship Servants

Liturgist: Rev. Dr. Ted Hopkins
Guest Preacher: Seminarian Benjamin Brenner
Lay Reader: Katie Contreras
Music: Hannah Coomer
Family Worship Team: Tim & Barbara Adler
Hospitality: Nancy Niemela
Elder: Brent O'Banion

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?



Download the **Church Center** app from the Google Play or Apple App stores and navigate to "Give"



or Scan the **QR Code** to give immediately through Church Center

or Visit <https://st-paul-lutheran-church-ann-arbor.churchcenter.com/giving>



or 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	Bud. Var.	Prior Year	PY Var.
July	278	\$ 85,561	\$ 103,200	\$ (17,639)	\$ 95,048	\$ (9,487)
August	292	\$ 92,582	\$ 129,100	\$ (36,518)	\$ 87,623	\$ 4,960
September	364	\$ 108,717	\$ 106,200	\$ 2,517	\$ 98,203	\$ 10,514
October	347	\$ 112,763	\$ 106,200	\$ 6,563	\$ 140,243	\$(27,480)
November	311	\$ 135,822	\$ 132,800	\$ 3,022	\$ 106,819	\$ 29,004
December	291	\$ 163,097	\$ 123,200	\$ 39,897	\$ 157,855	\$ 5,242
January	306	\$ 91,986	\$ 106,200	\$ (14,214)	\$ 107,378	\$(15,392)
February	350	\$ 128,052	\$ 107,400	\$ 20,652	\$ 87,936	\$ 40,116
March	356	\$ 118,257	\$ 135,200	\$ (16,943)	\$ 118,139	\$ 118
April	428	\$ 112,360	\$ 114,900	\$ (2,540)	\$ 95,801	\$ 16,559
May	360	\$ 107,685	\$ 132,800	\$ (25,115)	\$ 112,259	\$ (4,575)
June	-	\$ -	\$ 104,800	\$ -	\$ 122,082	\$ -
YTD	335	\$ 1,256,881	\$ 1,402,000	\$ (40,319)	\$1,329,384	\$ 49,579



News & Upcoming Events

Don't miss out! Sign up for our e-News at: www.stpaulannarbor.org/news-and-events



Summer Women's Bible Study with Visual Faith Ministry!

Join us Wednesdays, July 8 - August 5 (8pm EST), for our Summer Bible Study series: Tapestry, Women in the Gospels! This study is written by many different voices from the Visual Faith Ministry community, with the connecting thread being the Biblical women who were influenced by, associated with, or played an important part in Jesus' story. Our time together will include teaching time, Breakout Room discussion, and Visual Faith practices put to use. This Zoom Gathering is **FREE** - A Zoom link will be sent to your email upon registration. (Please check your spam folder if you do not receive the confirmation email!) Scan the QR code for more info and to register!



Volunteers Needed for Art Fair Parking Fundraiser - July 16-18

St. Paul and Emmaus are once again coming together to raise funds for the local Delonis Center shelter! During the Ann Arbor Art Fair we'll be providing a parking option in the youth house parking lot (500 W. Liberty St.) and passing out bottled water and snacks, all at an affordable price. Thanks to a Thrivent grant covering the up front costs, 100% of the proceeds will be donated to the Delonis Center! But, we need YOU to make this happen. Time slots are 2-3 hours each and we're looking for 2 volunteers in each slot. If you're able to, sign up for multiple slots! Sign up by scanning the QR code.

Job Opportunity at SPAA: Maintenance Help Needed

Part time maintenance person wanted for the church and school. Daily tasks include ongoing/preventative maintenance and small upgrade projects on the buildings and equipment at the school and church campuses. The position will require approximately 18 hours per week and the schedule is flexible. The pay range is \$25 to \$30 per hour depending on experience. If interested please contact David Theuerkorn, Business Manager, businessmanager@stpaulannarbor.org.

No Kids Word in July

There will be no Kids Word in July due to summer vacation schedules, but Kids Word will resume at the late service on Sunday, August 2nd!



Church Office Summer Hours:

During the summer, our church office will be open Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays from 9am - 3pm. If you would like to leave a message for staff after hours please call 734-665-9117 or email them directly. Scan the QR code for our staff directory!
