



St. Paul
Ann Arbor

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

Justification of the Ungodly



- The Radical Gospel in Romans -

Welcome to Worship

July 19, 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.

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, July 19, 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

HYMN

"Lord, How Secure My Conscience Was"



(Tune: LSB# 342)

1. **Lord, how secure my conscience was,
And felt no inward dread!
I was alive without the law,
And thought my sins were dead.**
2. **My guilt appeared but small before,
Till terribly I saw
How perfect, holy, just, and pure,
Was Your eternal law.**
3. **My hopes of heav'n were firm and bright,
But since the precept came
Your true and great revealing light
Shines on my wretched frame.**
4. **I'm like a helpless captive, sold
Under the power of sin
I cannot do the good I would,
Nor keep my conscience clean.**
5. **My God, I cry with every breath
For Your kind pow'r to save,
To break the yoke of sin and death,
And thus redeem this slave!**

Text: Isaac Watts (1674–1748), alt. Kirchenlied S. Schreiber (b. 1685)

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

Romans 7:24, 1 John 1:8–9

P: In today's Epistle reading, the apostle Paul describes our seemingly endless battle with our sinful selves. Although he knows what is right, he finds it virtually impossible to do the same. That's because he (and all of us) have this sickness called sin, for which we ourselves have no antidote. And even worse, it keeps producing evil symptoms in our thoughts, words, and deeds. As a result, we are both sick in spirit and tired from struggling. Paul exclaims, *"Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?"* Therefore, if we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C: Most merciful God, we confess that we are ever burdened by our sin. What we want to do, we fail to do. And what we end up doing, we know is wrong. On our own, we cannot escape our sinfulness. Only in Your mercy is there rest for our souls, and relief from the burdens on our hearts. Fill us again with the assurance of the cross and the empty tomb, that we may receive anew the victory that is ours through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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

GOD TURNS TO US, EAGER TO FORGIVE

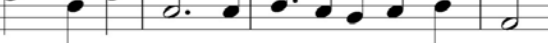
Absolution
John 20:19–23

P: Our persistent sinfulness can only be overcome in Christ Jesus, who took our wretchedness upon Himself when He died on the cross. In His mercy, God has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. In this great gift we are able to see how even the wretched are blessed through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, 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.

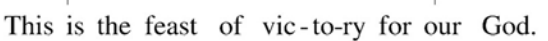
C: Amen! "Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!"

HYMN OF PRAISE

"This Is the Feast of Victory"
(LSB pg. 171) *Revelation 5:12-13; 19:5-9*



A This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



C Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,



 whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God.

Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and strength and
 hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are His.
 This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le -
 lu - ia. Sing with all the peo - ple of
 God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:
 Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and might be to
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.
 This is the feast of vic - to-ry for our God,
 for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun His reign.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Salutation & Collect

- P: The Lord be with you.
C: **And also with you.**
- P: Almighty God, Your Son Jesus Christ rescued us from the power of sin and Satan. Strengthen us by Your Word, that we may be able to resist the temptations to do that which we know is wrong, and the temptation to avoid those things we ought to do, that in our lives we may show forth Your glory, for You live and rule with the same Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C: **Amen.**

We Hear the Word of God

FIRST READING ✠ Romans 7

¹ Or do you not know, brothers—for I am speaking to those who know the law—that the law is binding on a person only as long as he lives? ² For a married woman is bound by law to her husband while he lives, but if her husband dies she is released from the law of marriage. ³ Accordingly, she will be called an adulteress if she lives with another man while her husband is alive. But if her husband dies, she is free from that law, and if she marries another man she is not an adulteress.

⁴ Likewise, my brothers, you also have died to the law through the body of Christ, so that you may belong to another, to him who has been raised from the dead, in order that we may bear fruit for God. ⁵ For while we were living in the flesh, our sinful passions, aroused by the law, were at work in our members to bear fruit for death. ⁶ But now we are released from the law, having died to that which held us captive, so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit and not in the old way of the written code.

⁷ What then shall we say? That the law is sin? By no means! Yet if it had not been for the law, I would not have known sin. For I would not have known what it is to covet if the law had not said, “You shall not covet.” ⁸ But sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, produced in me all kinds of covetousness. For apart from the law, sin lies dead. ⁹ I was once alive apart from the law, but when the commandment came, sin came alive and I died. ¹⁰ The very commandment that promised life proved to be death to me. ¹¹ For sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, deceived me and through it killed me. ¹² So the law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good.

¹³ Did that which is good, then, bring death to me? By no means! It was sin, producing death in me through what is good, in order that sin might be shown to be sin, and through the commandment might become sinful beyond measure. ¹⁴ For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the flesh, sold under sin. ¹⁵ For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ¹⁶ Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the law, that it is good. ¹⁷ So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. ¹⁸ For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. ¹⁹ For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. ²⁰ Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me.

²¹ So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. ²² For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, ²³ but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. ²⁴ Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? ²⁵ Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin. (ESV)

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

WE RISE TO THE GOSPEL

Alleluia & Verse
(LSB pg. 173) *John 6:68*



HOLY GOSPEL..... ✠ Matthew 13:24–30, 36–43

²⁴ [Jesus] put another parable before them, saying, "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field, ²⁵ but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. ²⁶ So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. ²⁷ And the servants of the master of the house came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have weeds?' ²⁸ He said to them, 'An enemy has done this.' So the servants said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' ²⁹ But he said, 'No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. ³⁰ Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, "Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn."'" ...

³⁶ Then [Jesus] left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples came to him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." ³⁷ He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. ³⁸ The field is the world, and the good seed is the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, ³⁹ and the enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰ Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹ The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, ⁴² and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear." (ESV)

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

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.

MESSAGE

Romans 7

Rev. Dr. Ted Hopkins

RESPONSE

(Tune: LSB# 421)

**What I do supports my sinning,
Failing that which I desire.
Seeking good at day's beginning,
Shows to what I can't aspire.
Who can save me from this death?
He who brings Life-giving breath.
Thanks to God, my true Forgiver,
Jesus Christ—He shall deliver!**

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

COMMISSIONING for M.O.S.T. MINISTRIES MEDICAL MISSION TRIP to LA PAZ, HONDURAS

July 29

✝ **Cindy Pine** (working with Iglesia Castillo Fuerte congregation)

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.

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.*

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. 180)

John 1:29

G Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of
God, You take a - way the sin of the world;
grant us peace, grant us peace.

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: "The Rescue We Were Waiting For"
"What Is This Bread"

(See page 12)

LSB# 629

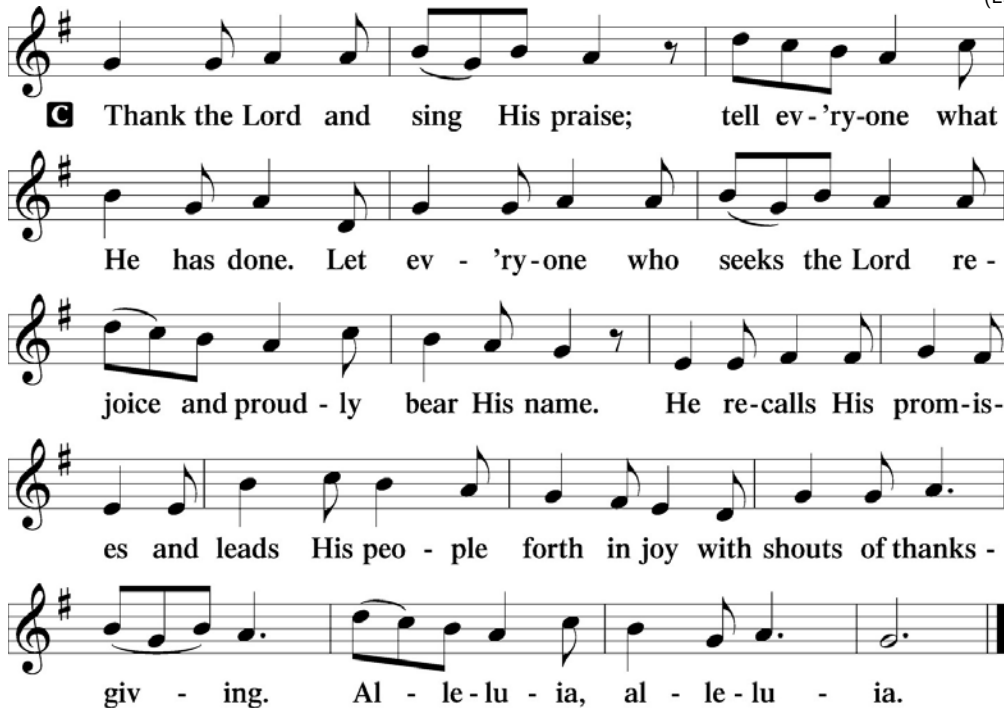
WORDS OF PEACE AND JOY

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. 181)



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what
He has done. Let ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re -
joice and proud - ly bear His name. He re-calls His prom-is-
es and leads His peo - ple forth in joy with shouts of thanks -
giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

TAKING IT HOME

Romans 7:19,24,25 (ESV)

- P: "For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing..."
- C: **Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!"**

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

"God of Grace and God of Glory"
Stanzas 1 & 4



LSB# 850

POSTLUDE



The Flowers in the Chancel

The altar flowers have been placed to the glory of God
by Alex & Rebecca Boyer in honor of their daughter, Elaine,
celebrating her baptism this afternoon.

Our Worship Servants

Liturgist: Rev. Aaron Roggow
Preacher: Rev. Dr. Ted Hopkins
Lay Reader: Adam Cieply
Director of Music: Dr. John Boonenberg
Family Worship Team: Fred & Laurie Metzger
Hospitality: Julie Novak
Elder: Brent O'Banion

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

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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.

1. **The rescue we were waiting for
Has come most undeservedly,
While we were groping on the floor
Of deep despair, what did we see?
The hand of Jesus, God's own Son,
Came reaching down to us alone:
No one but He could save us.**
2. **Chained by the Law and its demands
And crippled by the curse of sin,
All offerings smeared by guilty hands,
The wall of hopelessness closed in,
While in the mirror all I saw
Was weakling, rebel, fatal flaw—
And found no one to save me.**
3. **The Law, I found, was not the way
To life and health, to joy and peace;
I'd piled up debts I could not pay,
From death there was no sure release.
And then, when in the deepest throes
Of gloom, I heard the hammer blows
Constructing my salvation.**
4. **The gift I had no right to claim,
A life to compensate my loss,
By grace from God the Father came:
My Substitute upon my cross.
My pardon there was read to me,
Beneath that God-forsaken tree—
And I am free forever!**

Text: Jaroslav Vajda, © Concordia Publishing House

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	PYVar.
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

We want to SEE you in our St. Paul Directory!

Earlier this year we rolled out our St. Paul member directory through Church Center. Email invitations were sent out to each and every member of St. Paul Ann Arbor with a link to join our online directory. If you are a member of St Paul and have not yet joined the directory please email the church office at office@stpaulannarbor.org so that you can be sent a new invitation with a link to join. Information about security and privacy as well as instructions are available at worship entrances.

Already have your church center profile set up but no photo?

Here are quick instructions on how to add your photo to your church center profile:

How do I upload a photo of myself?

- **Access Your Profile:** Open the Church Center app and tap the profile circle with your initials in the top left corner (top right corner if using desktop).
- **Edit Profile:** Click "My information and settings" and "Personal and household info".

Under "Personal information" select the Edit button.

- **Upload Photo:** Click on "Update Photo" at the top to take a new picture or upload from your photo library.
- **Save Changes:** Ensure you click "Update" at the top-right to save your changes.

How do I upload a photo for my Household?

- To Add a Household Photo: Under "My information and Settings" go to "Directory listing". Click the "Edit" button and here you can choose which information you want visible in the directory and if you scroll down there is an edit button next to Household photo. Click that button and you can take a new photo or upload from your photo library.

No Kids Word in July - Resumes Sunday, August 2nd!

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 which is also our last summer Fellowship Sunday with coffee, donuts and extended social time after worship!



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!
