



St. Paul
Ann Arbor

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



Welcome to Worship

October 4, 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.

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, October 4, 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:
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 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.
- **Coffee & Discipleship:** Coffee is available in the gathering area off the front of the sanctuary. Also, join us Sundays at **9:45 AM** for "Discipleship Hour." Coffee, treats, and Discipleship activities for all ages!

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

"Dearest Jesus, We Are Here"



(LSB# 592)

1 Dear - est Je - sus, we are here, Glad - ly Your com -
2 Your com - mand is clear and plain, And we would o -
3 There - fore we have come to You, In our arms this

mand o - bey - ing; With this child we now draw near
bey it du - ly: "You must all be born a - gain,
in - fant bear - ing. Tru - ly here Your grace we view;

In re - sponse to Your own say - ing That to You it
Heart and life re - new - ing tru - ly, Born of wa - ter
May this child, Your mer - cy shar - ing, In Your arms be

shall be giv - en As a child and heir of heav - en.
and the Spir - it, And My king - dom thus in - her - it."
shield - ed ev - er, Yours on earth and Yours for - ev - er.

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!**

The Order of Holy Baptism

Jack Matthew Pantaleo

infant son of Ryan & Jessica Pantaleo,
will become a member of God's family through Baptism.
The sponsors for Jack are Ryan Hulteen, Lia Pantaleo,
Matt & Lori Hulteen, and Jack & Sue Pantaleo.

"Baptism is not just plain water, but it is the water included in God's command and combined with God's Word." (Luther's Small Catechism)

When God connects His life-creating and life-giving Word to simple water in Baptism, we are born again of water and the Spirit, re-created as His beloved child and heir.



EXPLANATION OF BAPTISM FROM THE SCRIPTURES

Name of Baptismal candidate: ✠ **Jack Matthew Pantaleo**

Receive the sign of the Cross
Prayer

PROMISE OF THE SPONSORS

BAPTISMAL GOSPEL

Mark 10:13–16 (ESV)

¹³ [People] were bringing children to [Jesus] that he might touch them, and the disciples rebuked them. ¹⁴ But when Jesus saw it, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God. ¹⁵ Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it." ¹⁶ And he took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands on them.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

BAPTISMAL CONFESSION OF FAITH

- P: We confess together the faith which God works through Baptism:
Do you renounce the devil, and all his works and all his ways?
- C: **Yes, I do renounce them.**
- P: Do you believe in God the Father Almighty?
- C: **Yes, I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**
- P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son?
- C: **Yes, I believe 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.**
- P: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?
- C: **Yes, 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.**

THE BAPTISM

- P: *Jack Matthew Pantaleo*, I baptize you in the name of the
Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: **Amen.**



- P: The almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.
- C: **Amen.**

BAPTISMAL PRAYER

P: Almighty and most merciful God and Father, we thank and praise You that You graciously preserve and enlarge Your family and have granted *Jack* the new birth in Holy Baptism and made him a member of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and an heir of Your heavenly kingdom. We humbly implore You that, as he has now become Your child, You would keep him in his baptismal grace, that according to Your good pleasure he may faithfully grow to lead a godly life to the praise and honor of Your holy name and, finally, with all Your saints, obtain the promised inheritance in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

PRESENTATION OF THE NEWLY BAPTIZED

P: In Holy Baptism, God the Father has made you a member of His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and heir with us of all the treasures of heaven in the one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We receive you in Jesus' name as our brother in Christ, that together we might hear His Word, receive His gifts, and proclaim the praises of Him who called us out of darkness into His marvelous light.

C: **Amen. We welcome you in the name of the Lord.**

P: Peace ☩ be with you.

C: **Amen.**

BAPTISMAL HYMN

(LSB# 592)

Now into Your heart we pour
Prayers that from our hearts proceeded.
Our petitions heav'nward soar;
May our hearts' desires be heeded!
Write the name we now have given;
Write it in the book of heaven!



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Salutation & Collect

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Merciful Father, we thank You that You do not call the righteous, but sinners. We thank You for calling us—the sick and the outcast—to Your family of grace. Bind us together as one community of faith, not in the pride of our achievements, but in the shared experience of our trials and challenges, and most importantly, our common need for a Savior. May our weaknesses be the ground upon which we find true community, supporting one another in the Gospel of Your Son, finding strength in Your working among us—for Your power is made perfect in our weakness.

C: **Amen.**

We Hear the Word of God

OLD TESTAMENT ✠ Hosea 6:1-6

¹ "Come, let us return to the Lord; for he has torn us, that he may heal us; he has struck us down, and he will bind us up. ² After two days he will revive us; on the third day he will raise us up, that we may live before him. ³ Let us know; let us press on to know the Lord; his going out is sure as the dawn; he will come to us as the showers, as the spring rains that water the earth." ⁴ What shall I do with you, O Ephraim? What shall I do with you, O Judah? Your love is like a morning cloud, like the dew that goes early away. ⁵ Therefore I have hewn them by the prophets; I have slain them by the words of my mouth, and my judgment goes forth as the light. ⁶ For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings. (ESV)

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE ✠ 2 Corinthians 4:1-12

¹ Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart. ² But we have renounced disgraceful, underhanded ways. We refuse to practice cunning or to tamper with God's word, but by the open statement of the truth we would commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God. ³ And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴ In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵ For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. ⁶ For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

⁷ But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us. ⁸ We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; ⁹ persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; ¹⁰ always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our bodies. ¹¹ For we who live are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. ¹² So death is at work in us, but life in you. (ESV)

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

HOLY GOSPEL ✠ Matthew 9:9–13

⁹ As Jesus passed on from [Capernaum], he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, “Follow me.” And he rose and followed him. ¹⁰ And as Jesus reclined at table in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and were reclining with Jesus and his disciples. ¹¹ And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?” ¹² But when he heard it, he said, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. ¹³ Go and learn what this means: ‘I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.’ For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.” (ESV)

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE —Grace Wiebe

HYMN

“Entrust Your Days and Burdens”
Stanzas 1, 3, 4, 6

 **LSB# 754**

MESSAGE

“Friends in Low Places: Community Forms in Weakness”
Rev. Dr. Ted Hopkins

Matthew 9:9–13

RESPONSE

**In times of life that bring us low,
Where darker days have been,
Among the trials and challenges,
Can bring to mind our sin.
Yet in this lonely dwelling
There is community—
A place where God is stronger,
Where peace and love shall be.**

(LSB# 754)

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.



WELCOME MOMENT

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.

C: **Amen.**

A Foretaste of the Great Feast in Heaven



WE TURN TO GOD, MINDFUL OF OUR SINFULNESS

Confession of Sins
1 John 1:8-9

P: 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: **Holy and gracious God, I confess that I have sinned against You. Some of my sin I know—the thoughts and words and deeds of which I am aware—yet some is known only to You. In the name of Jesus Christ, I ask Your forgiveness. Deliver and restore me that I may be at peace with You and with my neighbor. 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. 180)
John 1:29

■ 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: "Amazing Grace"
"From Depths of Woe I Cry to Thee"

LSB# 744
LSB# 607

Anthem: "Eternal Light, Shine in My Heart"

K. Lee Scott (b. 1950)

*Eternal light, shine in my heart; eternal hope, lift up my eyes;
Eternal power, be my support; eternal wisdom, make me wise.
Eternal life, raise me from death; eternal brightness, help me see;
Eternal Spirit, give me breath; eternal Savior, come to me:
Until by Your most costly grace, invited by Your holy Word,
At last I come before Your face to know You, my eternal God.*

*God, who commanded the light to shine in the darkness,
Has shined in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge
Of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.*

—Christopher Idle
(based on a prayer of Alcuin)
2 Corinthians 4:6

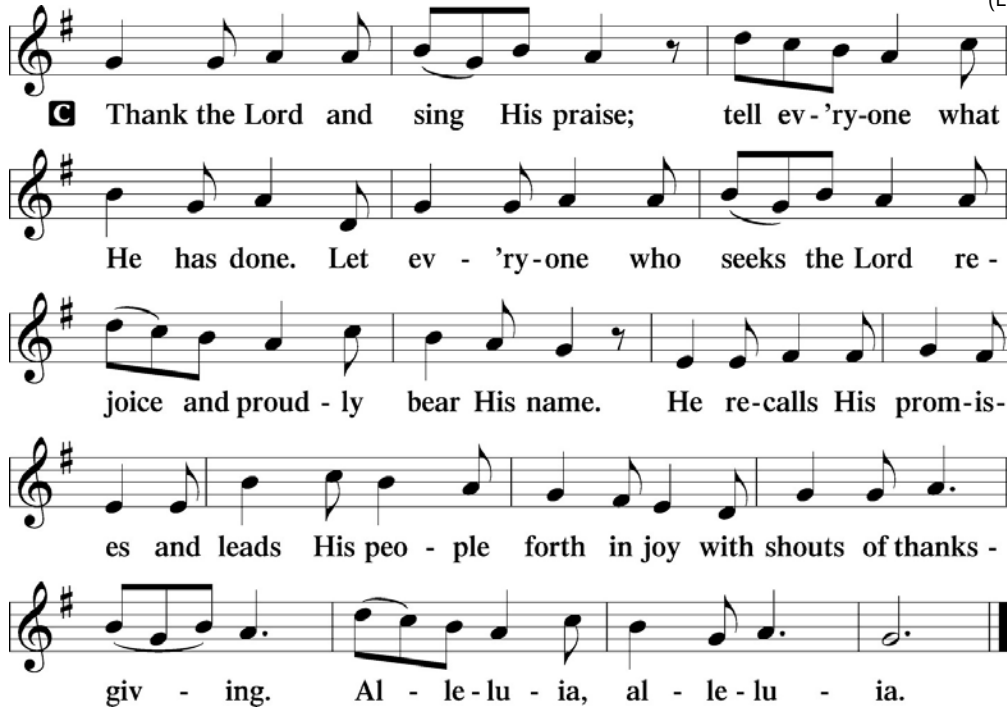
WORDS OF PEACE AND JOY

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)



G 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.

A PRAYER FOR OPEN EYES

- All: Gracious Father, You have poured out Your grace on me, welcoming me into Your family. Open my eyes by Your Holy Spirit so that I notice Your great love at work in and around me. Help me receive Your welcome through others, and walk through the doors You open for me to share Your love with my neighbors. In Jesus' name. Amen.

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

"Oh How Good It Is"



(Getty/Holmes/Townend)

Verses

1. Oh how good it is when the fam - 'ly of God dwells to - geth - er in
2. Oh how good it is on this jour - ney we share to re - jice with the
3. Oh how good it is to em - brace His com - mand to pre - fer one an -

spir - it, in faith and u - ni - ty; Where the bonds of peace, of ac - cept - ance and
hap - py, and weep with those who mourn; For the weak find strength, the af - flict - ed find
oth - er, for - give as He for - gives; When we live as one we all share in the

Chorus

love are the fruit of His pres - ence here a - mong us. So, with one voice we'll
grace, when we of - fer the bless - ing of be - long - ing.
love of the Son, with the Fa - ther, and the Spir - it.

sing — to the Lord, and with one heart we'll live — out His word; Till the whole earth

sees the Re - deem - er has come, for He dwells in the pres - ence of His peo - ple.

POSTLUDE



Our Worship Servants

Liturgist/Preacher: Rev. Dr. Ted Hopkins
Children's Message: Grace Wiebe
Director of Music: Dr. John Boonenberg
Choir: Adult Choir
Family Worship Team: Shasko family
Hospitality: Julie Novak
Lay Reader/Elder: Jerry Novak

Oh How Good It Is: by Keith & Kristyn Getty, Ross Holmes, Stuart Townend, ©2012 Getty Music Publishing (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.)
Parakeet Boots Music (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.) Townend Songs (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.) CCL#11313419
Printed liturgy and hymns from Lutheran Service Book, created by Lutheran Service Builder ©2006 Concordia Publishing House.
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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/>

Welcoming Community

2026–2033 St. Paul Ann Arbor Vision

In the underconnected and transient Ann Arbor area, St. Paul seeks to revitalize our neighborhoods through relationships. Many people have full, busy lives yet still long for deeper connections, with others and with God.

In Jesus, God gives full and abundant life. Through this gift, we believe that God has prepared St. Paul Ann Arbor to cultivate a community where people are known, loved, and welcomed into abundant life together. We seek to become this welcoming community by following Jesus with our neighbors and equipping others to do the same, showing up for one another and walking together in faith and life.



To begin this work, God is calling each of us at St. Paul Ann Arbor into deep and lasting relationships with and among our neighbors. By 2033, the 125th anniversary of St. Paul, we hope to welcome 7000* neighbors into deeper relationships with Jesus and His people. This is not a vision for growing St. Paul membership, but for becoming a people intentionally connected to the neighbors God has placed in our lives.

- *We imagine a community of imperfect people from all backgrounds who pray, eat, and play together, connecting meaningfully with one another in Christ.*
- *We imagine kids and their families building faith in community: learning to pray, forgive, and trust in Jesus together.*
- *We imagine people at all stages of life's journey, nourished in their faith by God's Word and each other.*
- *We imagine neighbors becoming friends, together shining the abundant love of God in our neighborhoods.*

***Why 7000?** Everyone contributes! Scripture regularly uses 7 and 10 to represent completion. For us, 7000 (7x10x10x10) symbolizes the full mission God is calling St. Paul, and each of us connected to St. Paul, to pursue over the next 7 years. In addition, 7000 works literally too. If the 350 regularly worshipping adults-plus children and families connected to our school-each deepen connections with two or more people annually, we will achieve this goal.



News & Upcoming Events

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



Welcome Moments - Share your stories with us!

Welcome Moments are seemingly ordinary moments when we notice God at work: bringing us grace through others, deepening relationships, encouraging us in faith, or opening doors for us to serve, love and share Jesus with our neighbors. We invite you to pray every day, asking God to open your eyes to His welcome opportunities.

As you notice a welcome moment, please share it with us! Together we want to discover the many ways God is at work in and through our Welcoming Community. Simply scan the QR code to share your stories.

Nursery Volunteers Needed for Discipleship Hour - Earhart Campus

Are you looking for ways to serve your congregation? We need your help to ensure that God's littlest followers feel loved and supported during our Discipleship Hour. Volunteers in the nursery care for ages 5 weeks to 3 years. The time commitment is 9:45 A.M.-10:30 A.M. on Sunday mornings at the Earhart campus, but ask you to be present by 9:30 A.M. to be ready to greet families. You would not have to serve every week, but would be placed on a rotation. Programming runs through May 16, 2027. Primary duties include facilitating play, reading children's books, and proactive communication with parents. Adults, high schoolers, and middle schoolers are welcome to volunteer (middle schoolers will partner with an adult). If you want to help please contact Amber Siglin at breweral@umich.edu for next steps.



Join us for our "Awaken" Workshop - November 13 & 14

Want to share your faith with more confidence? Jesus calls us to share the good news, but many of us aren't always sure where to begin. It can feel intimidating or even a little unnatural at times. But sharing the good news was never meant to feel forced. In connection to St. Paul's Welcoming Community Vision, we're partnering with Multipli to offer Awaken, a free training in relational evangelism. Learn simple tools for sharing the gospel, practice real conversations, and receive coaching, feedback, and encouragement along the way. This isn't about having all the answers. It's about taking a step of faith and learning to be more intentional in the relationships God's already given you. Have questions? Talk with Pastor Ted or scan the QR code for more details on this workshop and to sign up.

High School Students - Join us Sunday Nights for Rooted!

Rooted High School Ministry is the place to be on Sunday nights! Join us from **6:00-8:00 p.m.** at our new Youth Center (old gym) at our Downtown Campus (420 W. Liberty, Ann Arbor) for fun, friends, food, and faith. Come hang out, meet great people, make real connections, and find a community where you belong. Contact Tyler Seehafer at tseehafer@stpaulannarbor.org if you have any questions!
