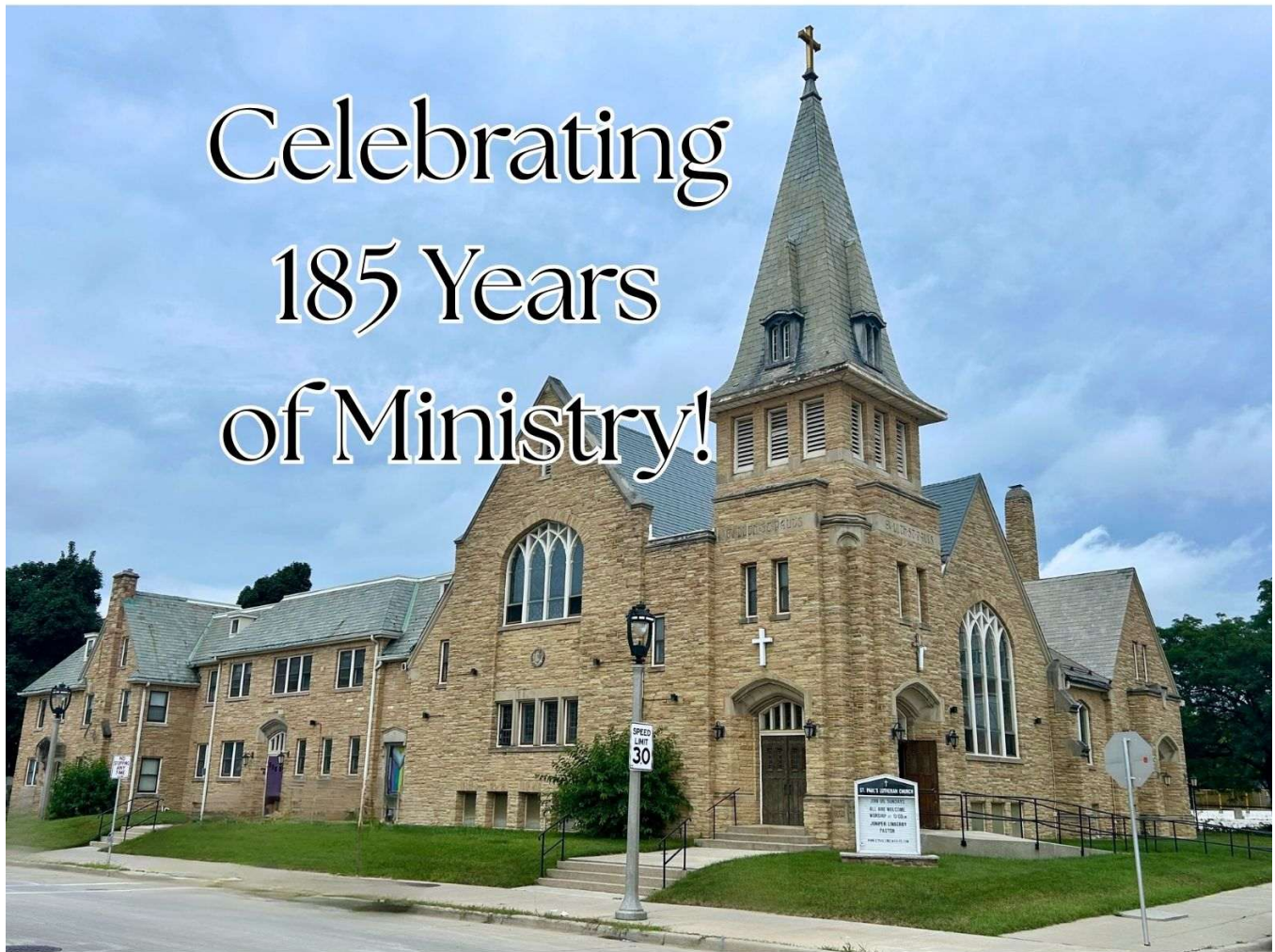


The Messenger

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Greater Milwaukee Synod, ELCA

Vol. 82- No. 9 – September, 2026

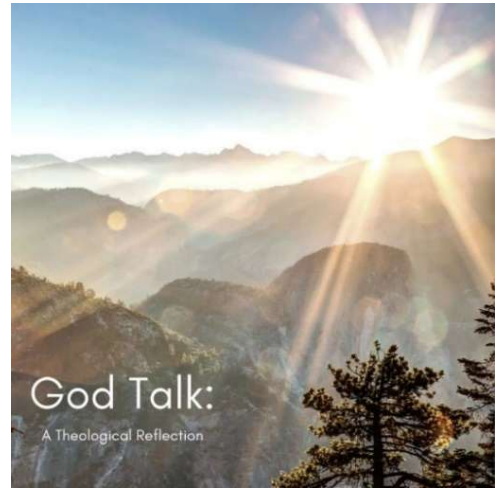


St. Paul's 185th Anniversary

September 27, 2026 | 2812 W. Wisconsin Ave, Milwaukee
10:00am Worship

God Talk

This month, our congregation celebrates 185 years of ministry! We are proud of our heritage as the oldest Lutheran congregation in Milwaukee and look forward to continuing our legacy as a signal of God's love and grace in our city.



I am honored to serve as your pastor and continue to engage in the amazing ministry we do in our neighborhood. When former pastor Dr. Cheryl Peterson visited recently, she shared about the process of becoming an RIC congregation in 2001, 8 years before the ELCA officially affirmed gay clergy and 14 years before same-sex marriage became legal in all 50 states. She remembered that process as a time that the people of St. Paul's were willing to take a risk, and willing to talk to one another about an often-difficult topic in order to fully live out our values as a welcoming congregation.

Twenty-five years later, I am blessed to be serving among you as a queer, non-binary pastor, able to proclaim God's word as my authentic self. People of St. Paul's, that is a wonderful blessing not to be taken lightly. Many of you have described this congregation as "a soft place to land," coming from backgrounds where it was not okay to be queer, not okay to question scripture or doubt your faith, not okay to be

your authentic self. That is why I love sharing our welcome statement every Sunday at the beginning of worship, reminding us all that “we welcome believers and questioners, and questioning believers.” Whoever you are, wherever you are on your journey of faith, you are welcome here. - Pastor Juniper

Voices of St. Paul's

Cheers to 185 years! St. Paul's is such a special place, and I am so pleased to celebrate 185 years of your ministry with Jesus and one another. I look with a fond and happy memory on the five years we spent together, and many memories come to mind. But one I will never forget is "carhop communion" during Covid. It was so fun to hook up my little FM transmitter mic, bundle up in my parka, and look out upon the expanse of cars behind church in the parking lot. Covid was a challenging time for everyone, but St. Paul's weathered the storm together. I always remember bringing communion to your homes, mailing ashes to you for Ash Wednesday, and delivering communion to your car windows while we joined together in worship on the radio. We even welcomed Tim Kitzman into membership during one of those wintry parking lot worship services! I hope you all take some time to think about special, funny, or memorable St. Paul's experiences as you celebrate together. Miss you!

-Pastor Delaney (a special hello from Matt and Milo!)

Voices of St. Paul's, continued...

I was invited to submit a story or memory from my years serving as pastor of St. Paul's. As I write this the deadline is fast approaching, but I haven't been procrastinating. The struggle is real. How do I chose? How do I single out one memory from 9 years of ministry with the people of St. Paul's & our neighbors?

I remember so many different worship services:

- joint English/Lao when we learned to slow down as we prayed the Lord's Prayer*
- a Maundy Thursday when a young member after having her foot washed hopped down the aisle to her seat in a back pew*
- Wednesdays in Lent at the Methodist church*
- A joint service with Redeemer and our Lao ministry to observe Denim Day*
- An Easter morning as we gathered to celebrate Christ's resurrection and grieved the deaths of two members of our community—one a long-time member and the other a Lao youth hit and killed by a car*
- Sherveeta sharing her gift of rap during another Easter morning*

I remember so many different ministry moments and accomplishments the Creation of the urban garden, VBS, Kim's Closet and The Couch to 5K partnership with the Jeff Galloway organization.

There are still more memories, moments, ways that we ministered together and that's just 9 years. I cannot even begin to imagine all the ways that the Holy Spirit has touched the lives and hearts of God's people in 185 years. I humbly give thanks for my time serving the people of St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

Peace and Power, Pastor Donna Brown

New Beginnings

We celebrate this month with **Sarah Micheel**, who graduated from Luther Seminary earlier this year with her Masters of Divinity and is about to start her first call as an ordained minister! Please join us at one or both of these events:



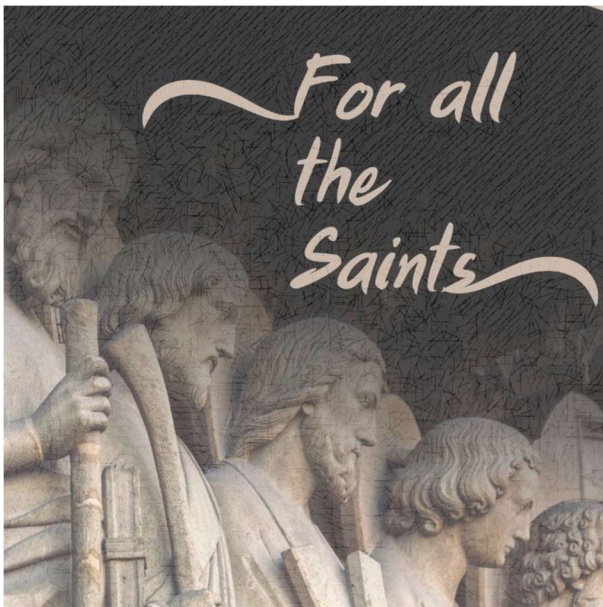
Sunday, September 6th: We will recognize Sarah during our regular worship service with a litany of farewell and token of our gratitude for her time with us.

Monday, September 7th: Service of Ordination at United Lutheran Church, 3825 Erie St. in Racine.

Guest Preacher

On September 20th we welcome guest preacher Jake Werkheiser! Pastor Jake currently serves as chaplain educator at St. Camillus and chaplain at Zilber Hospice. Pastor Jake previously served as an interim minister here at St. Paul's in 2017-18, and we are delighted to welcome him back!

PLEASE NOTE: Pastor Juniper will be out of town September 18-20, returning to the office Sept 21st.



For All the Saints

Hildegard of Bingen is one of only four women to be honored with the title of “Doctor of the Church” (in the Catholic Church).

Hildegard was born in 1098 to a noble family in the Rhine River Valley, the youngest of 10 children. As was the custom at the

time, being the tenth child meant that her parents “tithed” her to the church. She joined a Benedictine order at around age 8 and served with them for the next 40 years.

Hildegard had prophetic visions throughout her life, but kept most them private until a mentor encouraged her to write them down. Her master work, *Scivias*, was completed in 1151 and demonstrates the rich relationship between God, humanity, and creation.

She was also a prolific musician and composer, writing over 70 liturgical songs as well as a musical drama known as *Ordo Virtutum* (“The Order of the Virtues”).

You can learn more about Hildegard at [Hildegard-society.org](https://www.hildegard-society.org) ; [sainthildegard.com](https://www.sainthildegard.com) ; or listen to her music on your favorite music streaming platform.



RIC Corner

September 18th is National HIV/AIDS and Aging Awareness Day. Led by the AIDS institute, this observance focuses on the increasing numbers of people who, because of major advances

in treatment and care, are able to live longer, full lives while managing their HIV. While there still is no cure for HIV, there are drugs that can help suppress the effects in the body and prevent its spread to other people.

While we know that anyone can be infected with HIV – through contact with HIV-infected blood, sharing needles, or unprotected sex with someone with HIV – there is still a lot of negative stigma against those diagnosed with HIV. We cannot take for granted how far we have come in improving the quality of life for people who have been diagnosed with HIV, and yet we still have work to do ensuring that no one is shamed, silenced, or excluded for living with HIV.



To learn more, visit

<https://www.hiv.gov/events/awareness-days/aging> or

<https://www.zerohivstigmaday.com/>



Outreach for Hope (OFH) 2026 Family Ride Run Walk Saturday, Sept 26th

Outreach for Hope exists to support the Greater Milwaukee Synod, ELCA congregations and ministries - known as Ministry Partners - serving low-income urban areas - that's us! OFH

grants provide St. Paul's with funds to support our outreach ministry through Kim's Table and many other ministry partners who provide food pantries, meal programs, kids programs, gardening and bee-keeping programs, clothing closets and much more!

How can you help?

- Consider participating. Join Team St. Paul's at Washington Park, Milwaukee site. The preferred registration **deadline is September 7th** and the last day to register is Sept. 20th. It would be great to have **you** on the team! The Washington Park options include a 5K fun run or a 2-mile walk <OR> you could participate at another site in Waukesha, Grafton or Kenosha.
- If you don't want to run or walk, consider volunteering. There are several volunteer opportunities prior to and on the day of the event, September 26th.
- Join us for lunch! It's free, you just need to register. It's a fun time to be outdoors with so many siblings in Christ from around the synod. Who knows...you may run into a friend.
- Donate @ **OFHRRW.org** Make sure to look for Team/Congregations and select St. Paul's, Milwaukee

September

2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Aug 30	Aug 31	1	2 	3	4 	5
6 10am Worship Sarah Micheel Blessing	7 Labor Day Sarah Micheel's Ordination	8 7pm Council	9	10 	11	12 
13 GWOH 8:30am Bible Study 10am Worship	14 	15	16 Noon Kim's Table	17	18  Pastor Juniper	19 *October* Messenger Deadline OFF →
20 8:30am Bible Study 10am Worship w/Jake Werkheiser thru today. →	21	22	23 	24	25	26 OFH RRW 10am check in Washington Park, MKE
27 Anniversary Sunday! 8:30am Bible Study 10am Worship meal to follow	28	29	30	Oct 1	Oct 2 	Oct 3



Summer Outreach

Our Outreach team has been working hard all summer long, planning fall events as our mission here at St. Paul's. When you see someone on the team, give them a word of thanks!

Blankets! Thank you!

Thanks to all who tied a knot this summer! On Sunday, September 13th, the blankets will be blessed during our worship service. We'll have over 60 fleece blankets to share with our Kim's Table neighbors on September 16th thanks to you, our friends at Galilee Lutheran Church, and other friends of St. Paul's.

5th Sunday Service Project

Thanks to all who helped pack hygiene supplies on August 30th following the worship service.

We really appreciate your help!



God's Work. Our Hands. Sunday, Sept. 13, 2026

Don't miss 'hot dog' Sunday and an opportunity to serve and love our neighbors.

After worship, enjoy a hot dog, chips, beverage and cookies and then help the Outreach team with:

- ~ serving hot dogs to our neighbors outside
- ~ finishing any remaining fleece blankets

Bring a side dish or dessert to share!

We're also looking for a few bakers to bring cookies or bars for our neighbors.

God's work.
Our hands.



October is just around the corner!

Our last Kim's Table of 2026 will be on *Wednesday, October 16th.*

Thank you for all that you do to support St. Paul's outreach ministries!

NOISY OFFERING COLLECTION

Bring your loose change for special offering collection at the Worship Service every first Sunday of the month.



Street Angels - Milwaukee

Founded in 2016, Street Angels is a mobile outreach organization dedicated to assisting individuals in ending their unsheltered homelessness by providing dignified services, advocacy, a consistent support system, connections to critical resources, and hope. Our compassionate staff and volunteers travel directly to those who are experiencing unsheltered homelessness in Milwaukee County to provide assistance in meeting immediate basic needs and long-term solutions.

Showers of Hope

Operating 3 days per week, the mobile shower trailer program is designed to provide dignity on wheels to the Milwaukee community. Guests are provided with clean clothing, towels, hygiene kits, a nutritious bag lunch, and a private hot shower. This program is not only meant for those experiencing homelessness; anyone in the community who is having difficulty accessing a hot shower (and/or an ADA-compliant facility) is welcome to utilize the program.

For more information about Street Angels, please visit their website at www.streetangelsmke.org



Bible Study is back!

Join us for our weekly discussion,
8:30am every Sunday.

The fun starts September 13th!

September Anniversary

7th Marty and Eileen Harrison

17th Pr Juniper and Becca Linberry



September Birthdays

1st Karen Bromberek

16th Brett Gluth

16th Eileen Harrison

20th Kevin O'Brien

24th Marty Harrison

24th Breanne Monzel

30th Becca Linberry

SUNDAY GOSPEL AND PSALM READINGS

September 6 – 27



September 6

Ezekiel 33:7-11
Psalm 119:33-40
Romans 13:8-14
Matthew 18:15-20

Semicontinuous
First Reading and Psalm
Exodus 12:1-14
Psalm 149

September 13

Genesis 50:15-21
Psalm 103:[1-7] 8-13
Romans 14:1-12
Matthew 18:21-35

Semicontinuous
First Reading and Psalm
Exodus 14:19-31
Psalm 114

September 20

Jonah 3:10—4:11
Psalm 145:1-8
Philippians 1:21-30
Matthew 20:1-16

Semicontinuous
First Reading and Psalm
Exodus 16:2-15
Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45

September 27

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32
Psalm 25:1-9
Philippians 2:1-13
Matthew 21:23-32

Semicontinuous
First Reading and Psalm
Exodus 17:1-7
Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16

WORSHIP AND HOSPITALITY TEAM: September, 2026

	September 6 Pentecost 15	September 13 Pentecost 16	September 20 Pentecost 17	September 27 Pentecost 18
Assisting Minister	Tim Kitzman	Riley Brewer	Jeri Jende	Nancy Day
Usher Team	5	1	2	3
Altar Guild	5	1	2	3
Greeter(s)	Karen Bromberek	Karen Bromberek	Karen Bromberek	Karen Bromberek
Communion Assistant	5	1	2	3
Open	5	1	2	3
Close	5	1	2	3
Live Stream Team	Mike Polinske	Mark Van Engen	Brett Gluth	Mike Polinske

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Pastor Juniper Linberry