

# The MESSENGER

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

Vol. 77- No. 7 – July, 2021



**Worship With US**  
Communion every Sunday  
**Service begins at 10am**  
*Everyone is Welcome!*

## *Pastor's Pen*



At the June council meeting, our St. Paul's leadership participated in a review process with Pastor Kristin Nielsen, reviewing the ministry we have done together so

far and how I have measured up as your pastor, specifically when it comes to expectations vs. reality. With the three-year term call you extended me coming to an end this fall, we knew we wanted to get some feedback from you and get a jump on the process to determine if I would be staying on as your pastor. I didn't know what to expect going into that meeting, but when I saw the survey results from all of you and listened to the council's feedback, I was reminded yet again of how grateful I am that God brought us together. And how, in many ways, this partnership feels so natural and joy-filled.

I heard so many kind and honest words that night at the meeting, and it made me want to write some of my own feedback to you, especially on the heels of our congregational meeting where you extended me a call without limitation. Until now, my five years of ministry have been spent in term calls, and having something "settled" is such a wonderful feeling. So, I wanted to say thank you. Thank you for calling me, for being so open to the possibilities of our partnership together, and for displaying the warmth and flexibility you have. St. Paul's is a congregation comprised of resilient people who love each

other well. You are committed to your shared faith as well as the community God is gathering in our midst, and over the past two and a half years, I have been in awe of your ability to welcome and invest in new people and ideas. I have felt supported, respected, and inspired by this opportunity to be your pastor, and I cannot wait to see what God has in store for our future together. Thank you so much for all the warmth and laughter and thoughtful conversations, and thank you thank you thank you for continuing this call.

*"I thank my God every time I remember you,  
<sup>4</sup>constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers  
for all of you, <sup>5</sup>because of your sharing in the gospel from  
the first day until now" -Philippians 1:3-5*

-Pastor Delaney



**July Anniversaries**  
7<sup>th</sup> Matt and Jane Prahlow  
17<sup>th</sup> Dennis and Barb Benjamin



# Congregational Meeting



## Special Congregational Meeting

*June 20, 2021 - St. Paul's Lutheran Church*

This Special Congregational Meeting was called to order at 10:55 a.m. The meeting was held following an outdoors service at Pro Health Park in New Berlin.

There were 32 voting members present and a quorum was achieved.

Prior to consideration of the agenda items, the Rev. Kristen Nielsen of the GMS offered supportive comments on behalf of the synod.

The first item was a recommendation from the Church Council to submit a new Letter of Call for the Rev. Delaney Schlake-Kruse without limitation of term. Her present three-year Letter of Call expires this fall. The president thanked all who participated in the online survey and evaluation. There is no change in compensation or benefits.

Motion: Mark Voelz on behalf of the Church Council moved that a new Letter of Call without Limitation of Term be submitted to Rev. Schlake-Kruse. The motion was seconded by Jeri Jende. The motion passed unanimously.

Pr. Schlake-Kruse expressed her appreciation at this new Letter of Call and noted that she looks forward to serving St. Paul's. The Executive Committee will submit the paperwork to the synod for approval of the Bishop.

She also announced that Vicar Charlotte Linberry (personal pronouns: they/them) has agreed to serve a one year internship with us as part of their seminary studies. They will start this fall

and will complete their experience with us next spring. A grant from Outreach for Hope and commitments from us will fund the internship.

The second item was a discussion regarding the steeple parapet/walkway, downspouts and east gutter repair.

Last winter we experienced significant ice damming in the steeple parapet which resulted in water melt intrusion into the interior walls. This is due to ice backup at the chokepoint that drains the parapet and subsequent leakage at various points. The parapet is basically a large internal gutter that drains two sections of roofing. In addition, the east gutter between the dormers has experienced repeated damage from icing and needs repair.

Mike Polinske discussed the nature of the problem and the propose repairs we received from Great Lakes Roofing. Mark Van Engen noted his efforts to secure additional proposals from five contractors and noted the lack of responses from them. It was noted that finding contractors is a challenge currently as they are busy.

Discussion: Various options regarding the proposed repairs were discussed. It was noted that given the repeated failure of the east gutter between the dormers, consideration should be given to removing the gutter and not replacing it. A rain garden to address the drainage could be considered. Pr. Delaney knows of a church that secured a grant to cover the installation of a rain garden and will research the idea further.

Action: Susan Moylan moved to authorize the council to engage a roofing contractor for up to \$18,500.00 for the repairs.

Judy Ruehrmund seconded the motion. The exact repairs will be decided by the council based on future information. We will initiate a fund-raising drive to cover the expenses. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion: Mary Ellen Voelz moved to adjourn the meeting and Susan Moylan seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Mark Voelz, President

Join all of your friends on the morning of Saturday, September 25 for the **Outreach for Hope 2021 Ride Run Walk** (formerly the Family Bike Ride), and help FUNdraise \$150K for grants to central city **congregations** in the Greater Milwaukee Synod!

Each site offers a **walk, and road and trail rides** unless otherwise noted:

- ~ **Waukesha County:** Dousman/walk & ride on Glacial Drumlin Trail, and ride on county roads
- ~ **Ozaukee County:** Grafton/walk & ride on Ozaukee Interurban Trail, and ride on county roads
- ~ **Racine/Kenosha County:** Kenosha/walk at Petrifying Springs Park, ride on North Shore Bike Trail, and ride on roads
- ~ **NEW! Milwaukee County:** WALK ONLY at Washington Park
- ~ **Virtual:** Ride, run, walk, and/or fundraise on your own schedule

**REGISTRATION OPENS  
JULY 15!**

Visit [OFHRRW.org](https://OFHRRW.org) for more info



## Welcome Vicar Charlotte!



This fall, St. Paul's will welcome a new full-time member of our staff: Vicar Charlotte Linberry, a student of Luther Seminary

in St. Paul, MN! Vicar Charlotte will join the St. Paul's community in the fall and remain working alongside the congregation through next summer. These are exciting times in our congregation, as we embark on a new opportunity to engage, encourage, and learn from a seminarian!

**Charlotte Linberry** is excited to be your new pastoral intern! Charlotte was consecrated as a deaconess with the Lutheran Diaconal Association in February 2018 and started taking classes at Luther Seminary later that year. They have worked in camping ministry, leading activities at a nursing home, and most recently they were the choir director at Lake Park Lutheran Church in Milwaukee. They are excited to get to know you and to take part in the ministry at St. Paul's. Charlotte lives in Milwaukee with their wife, Becca, and two dogs, Louie and Fraggie. They enjoy camping, biking, hiking, gardening, and playing board games with family.







## RIC Corner

What does “non-binary” mean?

As we grow more accustomed to learning and growing in our affirming witness to the

Gospel, we have gained a lot of new vocabulary terms! One of the terms used by many people to describe themselves is the word “non-binary.” So, what does it mean? According to the Human Rights Campaign, “non-binary is an adjective describing a person who does not identify exclusively as a man or a woman. Non-binary people may identify as being both a man and a woman, somewhere in between, or falling completely outside these categories. While many also identify as transgender, not all non-binary people do.”

So, why does this matter?

When someone tells you who they are, it is important to honor what they tell you and to use the language they give in order that you may show respect and kindness toward them. Some non-binary people may use pronouns like “they/them” to refer to themselves. If this feels grammatically tricky to you, think of all the times you don’t know the gender of a person and so you call that person “they/them.” A few examples:

- “Wow! Whoever baked this cookie really knew what they were doing.”

- “They were going so fast; they almost ran me off the road!”
- “You made a new friend at school today? What was their name?”

So, just remember to honor what someone tells you, try it out, have grace for when you mess up, and try again.

Arguing or defending don't need to happen: it's just a little pronoun!

(Learn more here: <https://www.hrc.org/resources/glossary-of-terms>)

## **Behind the scenes at the Wisconsin State Fair**

In spring, it was volunteer contractors that planted the flower beds and this year, it's my sister who will maintain the beds and get them ready for the Fair! Cindy Neary, my sister and a former St. Paul's member was hired to maintain, water and weed the variety of flowers located at the **We Energies Energy Park** on the Wisconsin State Fair Park grounds. So, when you go to the State Fair (August 5 – August 15) be sure to stop by the We Energies Energy Park and enjoy the beautiful flowers!

-Dianne Polinske



**As our congregation continues to emerge** from hibernation, we have an opportunity to gather and serve our community. Bring a pair of gloves and a thermos of water, and join Alice's Garden (2136 N 21<sup>st</sup> St. Milwaukee) for their weekly community work morning. These mornings are filled with weeding, mulching, planting, watering, pruning, harvesting, and cleaning the garden.

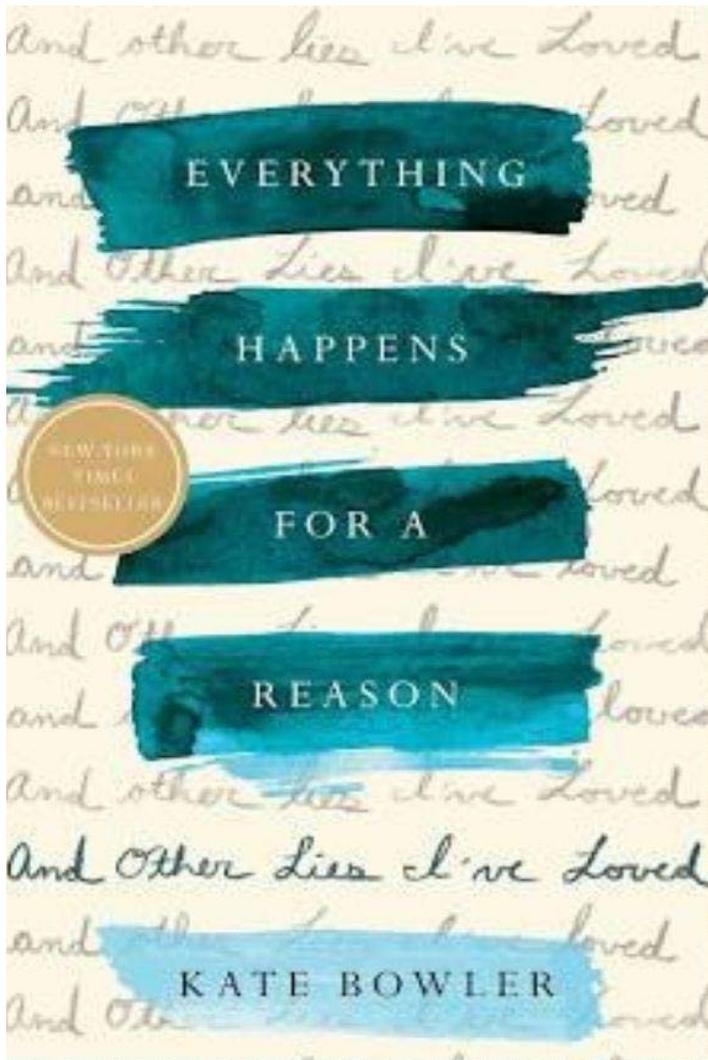
ST. PAUL'S VISITS

*Alice's*  
*Garden*

MONDAY JULY 12

9-12





Summer  
Reading  
with  
St. Paul's

"EVERYTHING  
HAPPENS FOR A  
REASON: AND OTHER  
LIES I'VE LOVED"  
BY KATE BOWLER

ON ZOOM

Mondays 6:30pm  
June 7-July 26

## Summer Book Study

This Summer, on Monday evenings from 6:30-7:30pm in June and July, we will get together on Zoom for a summer book study. This year, our book is "Everything Happens for a Reason: And Other Lies I've Loved." This book is a memoir, written Duke Divinity School professor Kate Bowler, upon her diagnosis with stage four cancer. It is a deeply moving, funny, and insightful book. **Please let Pastor Delaney know if you would like to be part of the book group.**

# July

# 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 
4 10am Worship Live Stream	5  6:30pm Book Club	6	7	8 	9	10 
11 10am Worship Live Stream	12 9am – Noon Alice's Garden  6:30pm Book Club	13	14  Pr. Delaney	15 Out	16 Of	17 Town
18 10am Worship Live Stream	19  6:30pm Book Club	20  August Messenger Deadline	21 Siebert Outreach Visit  Kim's Table Noon	22 	23	24 
25 10am Worship Live Stream	26  6:30pm Book Club	27 	28	29 Pr. Delaney	30 Out of	31 Town

## **Kim's Table**

Kim's Table returns Wednesday, July 21 at noon. If you would like to help with this ministry, or donate new socks, please do! The more the merrier (for helpers and socks)

JULY 21, 2021

12 NOON

28TH & WISCONSIN

*Kim's Table*



## Serve Our Community

Just a reminder that on Thursday, August 5<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 to 6:30pm, we have an opportunity to help out as a congregation at the Neighborhood House food Pantry in our neighborhood (2819 W Richardson Pl)

If you are interested in participating in this opportunity please let Dianne or Pastor Delaney know ([stpaulsMKE@yahoo.com](mailto:stpaulsMKE@yahoo.com) or [dschlakekruse@gmail.com](mailto:dschlakekruse@gmail.com))!

## Hospitality Visits

This summer, our outreach team is continuing Hospitality Visits in the Neighborhood! In May, we visited Our Safe Place (a men's sober living house on 29<sup>th</sup> St.), and in June we brought popcorn to the staff at Milwaukee Rescue Mission. On July 21, we will visit the Siebert Lutheran Foundation with bagels!

Through these visits, we are getting to know our neighbors more deeply. If you would like to participate in a visit, PLEASE don't hesitate to contact Pastor Delaney!





## Office Hours

Pastor Delaney and Dianne Polinske will be in the office on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings. Please note that Pastor is off on Fridays and Dianne is off on Thursdays and Fridays. Pastor

Delaney can be reached at (414) 292-6164 or [dschlakekruse@gmail.com](mailto:dschlakekruse@gmail.com), Dianne can be reached at [StpaulsMKE@yahoo.com](mailto:StpaulsMKE@yahoo.com)

## Follow us!

If you are not already following the St. Paul's Facebook page, please hop on and give us a follow! The Facebook Page often shares ministry updates and photos of all the goings on at St. Paul's!

<https://www.facebook.com/St-Pauls-Lutheran-Church-819599601481247>

## BIRTHDAYS IN JULY

10<sup>th</sup> MaryEllen Voelz

13<sup>th</sup> Inthaly Vannavong



# SUNDAY GOSPEL AND PSALM READINGS

July 4 – 25, 2021

<p><u>July 4</u></p> <p><b>Ezekiel 2:1-5</b> <b>Psalm 123</b> 2 Corinthians 12:2-10 <b>Mark 6:1-13</b></p> <p><i>Semicontinuous</i> <i>First Reading and Psalm</i> <b>2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10</b> Psalm 48</p>	<p><u>July 11</u></p> <p><b>Amos 7:7-15</b> <b>Psalm 85:8-13</b> Ephesians 1:3-14 <b>Mark 6:14-29</b></p> <p><i>Semicontinuous</i> <i>First Reading and Psalm</i> <b>2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19</b> Psalm 24</p>
<p><u>July 18</u></p> <p><b>Jeremiah 23:1-6</b> <b>Psalm 23</b> Ephesians 2:11-22 <b>Mark 6:30-34, 53-56</b></p> <p><i>Semicontinuous</i> <i>First Reading and Psalm</i> <b>2 Samuel 7:1-14a</b> Psalm 89:20-37</p>	<p><u>July 25</u></p> <p><b>2 Kings 4:42-44</b> <b>Psalm 145:10-18</b> Ephesians 3:14-21 <b>John 6:1-21</b></p> <p><i>Semicontinuous</i> <i>First Reading and Psalm</i> <b>2 Samuel 11:1-15</b> Psalm 14</p>

*“Summer breeze makes me feel fine  
Blowin' through the jasmine in my mind”*

*-Jim Seals, Dash Crofts*



Picture can be found at <https://everfreecoloring.com/cp/spring-coloring-pages-printable-for-adults-beautiful-spring-garden-with-a-well/>

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Rev. Delaney Schlake-Kruse