

**Worship Services
at Saint Paul**

Sunday Worship
Sanctuary
9:00 and 10:30 a.m.

Saturday Worship
Chapel
6:00 p.m.

**Watch Worship
at Saint Paul**

On Spectrum channel 1302
On Kinetic channel 13
Tuesday 12:00 p.m.
Thursday 7:00 p.m.
Sunday 11:00 a.m.

Radio Ministry

Sundays, 11:30 a.m.
The Saint Paul Hour
1240 AM/103.3 FM (KFOR)

Visit our website
www.SaintPaulUMC.org

**Electronic
Newsletter**

In an effort to reduce paper and the postage fees, please email communications@saintpaulumc.org if you are able to receive this newsletter electronically.

**Church Council Statement on General
Conference Actions**

Church Council Statement:

The Church Council of Saint Paul UMC, Lincoln refuses to accept the United Methodist stance that homosexuality is incompatible with Christian teaching. We affirm the rich diversity of sexual orientations and gender expression as part of God's good creation. All people are beloved children of God embraced by God's prevenient, justifying and sanctifying grace. We are seeking a path forward that will ensure the full inclusion of LBGTQIA people in the life of the UMC.

In addition, the Church Council approved the following actions:

We will make public our intent to dissent against the petitions of the Traditional Plan. Affirmed that, Saint Paul UMC Lincoln will not discriminate in membership, lay leadership, staff or clergy based on (P.162) race, color, national origin, ethnicity, age, gender, disability, status, economic condition, sexual orientation, gender identity, or religious affiliation. Resolved that we, the Church Council of Saint Paul UMC Lincoln, will not deny the use of our holy space for same-sex marriages. We will affirm and support clergy who choose to officiate these ceremonies. The council will propose this for action at a Church Charge Conference for congregation discussion and decision. We will hold discussion sessions regarding our affiliation/ disaffiliation with the UMC once options are made available so that all voices within our congregation can be heard. We will undertake information gathering efforts to identify what other UMC entities are planning and discussing. This effort will help our congregation to develop options for paths forward. The Church Council felt it was critical that we make a positive strong statement regarding our thoughts on these important issues. The Church Council will gather input from members of our Church throughout 2019 to assure any final actions are in concert with the opinions of our Congregation. It is our plan that final actions will be taken at the annual fall all Church member Charge Conference. If deemed necessary, a special Charge Conference may be held after the Great Plains Annual Conference which occurs in late May.

Tom Lamberson, Church Council Chair

Holy Week and Easter Worship

Palm Sunday

April 14, 2019

9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Worship services will feature a palm processional as “Hosanna, King of King” is heard in the context of a social upheaval pointing us to the week ahead.

Holy Thursday

April 18, 2019

7:00 p.m.

We share in sacred table fellowship feasting on Middle-Eastern inspired treats and remembering Jesus’ last night with his friends and family.

Holy Friday

April 19, 2019

7:00 p.m.

Jesus was not the first or the last to be crucified. A reflective service of scripture, contemporary stories and songs with music from our Chancel Choir.

Holy Saturday

April 20, 2019

6:00 p.m. in the Chapel

Scripture, song and meditation create sacred space as we await the dawn of Easter’s promise.

Easter morning!

April 21, 2019

9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Celebration worship services of our resurrection faith leading us into new awakening. The 10:30 service will be televised on channels 10/11 and streamed on 1011now.com at 11 a.m.

Mission Calendar

The Saint Paul Missions team is working together to create a yearly calendar of volunteer opportunities and on-going service projects. Our hope is to provide information about these opportunities to increase support and participation in the service projects, activities and causes that are near and dear to your hearts. As we begin our Fall planning we are interested in learning more about specific service projects, volunteer opportunities or community events to include in our church wide mission calendar. If you are aware of specific dates for upcoming events, or happen to be the point of contact for organizing church or community related projects please contact Mitch Connelly at mconnelly@saintpaulumc.org to share the details of your event.

Mission’s Team begins new community partnership

We are excited to announce that the Mission’s Team has begun a new community partnership with Aging Partners. With support from the Lincoln Food Bank, Saint Paul has established a client choice food pantry located at Aging Partners to provide food resources at no cost to senior residents at the Crossroads House. On the last Friday of each month from 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. volunteers will assist senior citizens in selecting, bagging and transporting food from our pantry. This is a wonderful opportunity to build relationships with others in the downtown community and to provide much needed services and support to those in need. Our next opportunity to serve is Friday April 26th. If interested in volunteering please contact Mitch Connelly at mconnelly@saintpaulumc.org.

Communications Updates

Spring has sprung, and along with it, Saint Paul has many exciting communication ministry updates.

Since assuming the leadership role for communications at Saint Paul in early February, we've made every effort possible to provide continuity in a transition while also undergoing an extensive branding process.

You can read more about our branding process on the website on the "Communications" page under "Connect" in the menu. Included on this page is a guide that explains our new look, our new website, as well as links to the proper usage guidelines for all communications-related pieces.

It's important to point out that communications, like other ministries at Saint Paul, is an evolving ministry that requires participation from many people. In the past communications simply meant Sunday bulletins and the occasional newsletter. Now, there are many, MANY lanes to the communications ministry at Saint Paul. Every week, in addition to the three bulletins that go out, we are reaching over 1,000 people using email communication and text communication. Our social media outlets reach several hundred consistently. This, of course, doesn't even begin to include all of the individual group communications that are taking place. Exciting times for the communication ministry!

I hope you'll check out the new ways to connect on the right side of this page, including the "Church Center" app, text-to-give features, and our new church database (which allows leaders to better manage their classes and groups).



Brent Comstock

Director of Communications

Brent is available during office hours on Tuesday's at Saint Paul and can be reached via email at

communications@saintpaulumc.org

Download the Church Center App to give online, register for events, or sign up for groups and classes!



church center

Available on the Apple and Google App stores.

Giving Online

We invite you to visit our giving and event registration kiosk to sign up for upcoming events or make your contribution online. You may also text the number 84321 and follow on-screen directions. A kiosk is located in the back of the sanctuary. Our Sunday welcome team is available to assist with any questions you may have.

Trainings for church leaders

We hosted training sessions for group / church leaders in late March. If you weren't able to make it to one of those trainings, we will be linking the presentation materials on the "Communications" page of the website. This information will be important for group leaders as we train and empower leaders to manage their individual group communications to ensure all information is up-to-date and timely for our Saint Paul community.

Fellowship Classes and Opportunities

From small groups to Sunday classes to community outings, the adult ministry at Saint Paul is active and has something for all adults seeking to connect with our community.

United Methodist Women

See page 6 for information

United Methodist Men

Every Monday at 11:45 a.m. in the Dining Room

Senior Adult Fellowship

Second Tuesday of the month at 11:30 a.m.

Children and Family Opportunities



Cathy Link | Director of Children and Family Ministries

Register for these events on the weekly connect card, on the Church Center app, or by emailing Cathy Link at

clink@saintpaulumc.org

Children's Easter Celebration

Sunday, April 14
from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Join us at the Lincoln Children's Museum for a fun filled evening. Enjoy after-hours access to the museum and Easter egg hunt. Please register for this event so we can plan to have enough eggs for all the kids. A free-will offering will be taken.

We will accept donations for wrapped candy for this event. Please bring your donations to the church office marked "Easter Party". Thank you!

Palm Sunday Processional

Sunday, April 14
9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Kids for Christ and Children's Choirs will participate in the Palm Sunday service during both worship services on Sunday, April 14th.

Kids will meet at the back of the Sanctuary before each service to receive their palm branch and line up. Parents and older siblings are welcome to join us!

There is NO SUNDAY SCHOOL on Easter Sunday!!

Adult Classes and Opportunities

This time before Easter is a wonderful time for contemplation, reflection, and learning together. There are several opportunities for spiritual growth during Lent; please consider one or more of the following groups as a way to be in community with others and to draw closer to God.

Almost Everything: Notes on Hope

A new group will form in late April to read and discuss *Almost Everything: Notes on Hope*. The author is Anne Lamott, who has the most engaging, funny, and straight-to-the-heart manner of speaking to life's issues. She acknowledges that despair and uncertainty surround us, and reminds us that the seeds of rejuvenation are at hand. Chapter titles include *Puzzles*, *Humans 101*, *Bitter Truth*, *Food*, and *Famblies*, among others. Marilyn Moore will lead this study, which will meet on Wednesday afternoons at 4:30 at the church beginning April 24, the week after Easter, an especially good time to think about hope.

"Let's Go to the Movies" and "Non-Fiction Book Group"

These two groups meet every month. Check the worship bulletin for upcoming movie titles and book titles. Come and enjoy rich conversation, new ideas, and really great people!

Volunteer Opportunity

Video/Audio/Livestream/Slide Projection

We would love to have more people involved in creating meaningful morning worship experiences. If you can assist in any of our technical ministries, with skills you have or are willing to learn, please contact: jflorence@saintpaulumc.org.



Marilyn Moore | Director of Spiritual Growth

Register for these classes on the weekly connect card, on the Church Center app, or by emailing Marilyn Moore at

mmoore@saintpaulumc.org

United Methodist Women

UMW Executive Board Meeting

Wednesday, April 10

10:30 a.m. in Room 155

Turn the Page

Monday, April 1

We will be discussing the book "Nobody Cries When We Die- God, Community and Surviving to Adulthood" by Patrick B. Reyes. On May 6, we will be discussing the book "Unsheltered" by Barbara Kingsolver.

Contact: Rogene Silletto at (402) 483-6323 or Ann Cerveney at (402) 440-2420.

Grateful Together

Saturday, April 6 9:30 a.m.

Jacob's Well Food Distribution at First Presbyterian Church. Serve dinner to Saint Paul Youth Group on April 28 at 5:00 p.m.
Contact: Mary Brittenham (402) 326-2631

Wesley Group

Tuesday, April 23 11:30 a.m. in the church cafeteria

We will be discussing chapter 14 of the book "Unveiling Mary Magdalene" by Liz Curtis Higgs.
Contact: Debbie Marshall (402) 742-5920

Group 1

Monday, April 15 7:00 p.m. in Paine Parlor

Program: "Girls Up" - Lincoln Public Schools
Contact: Carol van Rossum (402) 432-1485 or Ann Cerveney (402) 440-2420

Group 2

Wednesday, April 17 9:30 a.m. at Saint Paul

Continue the book study "Traveling Light" by Max Lucado.
Contact: Charlene Adden (402) 429-8578

Group 36

Wednesday, April 17 1:00 p.m. in Room 155

Michelle Chesnut will present Motive.
Contact: Addie Lancaster (402) 477-6951

UMW Style Show and Salad Luncheon

Saturday, April 6 at 12:00 p.m. \$10 before April 1, \$12 April 2-6 and at the door.

Featuring fashion from Dillard's, jewelry sale to benefit Jalingo, Nigerian Orphanage and music by Alicia Opoku. For tickets and reservations, call Addie Lancaster at (402) 477-6951 or register on the Church Center app.

Lincoln Zoo Presentation with Dr. Trent Shrader

Thursday, May 2 at 6:00 p.m. in the Dining Room

An informative program about the Lincoln Zoo with Dr. Trent Shrader, Director of Animal Welfare, Conservation and Research. The cost of the dinner is \$7.00 and the program is free. Reservations for dinner can be made by contacting Gay Nelson, at (402) 475-5663 or lingmg@aol.com. Reservations need to be made by Monday, April 29.

Mission Education Tour

June 1-June 11, 2019

For Saint Paul women ages 15 - 20

Make new friends, learn what it means to be in mission and help others. Join an 11-day adventure with 40 young women from the Great Plains Conference. Visit and volunteer: Cookson Hills Center in the Oklahoma Missionary Conference; UMCOR Depot Sager Brown, LA; Upper Room, TN; Red Bird Mission, KY. Travel by bus and stay at Methodist Churches. Eight Methodist Women sponsors. If interested, contact Mary Starr (402) 489-1122 or mary2starr@gmail.com. Apply for \$450 Scholarship offered by Saint Paul UMW to cover all costs. Applications available in Saint Paul Office. Return by March 20.

Worship Service Time Change

At our year-end meeting in December, we cast a vision for 2019. One decision made was to change our worship times on Sunday morning to 8:45 and 10:45. This is a fifteen minute change to each service. Why? By moving both services 15 minutes, we have created an hour between our two worship services. All our Sunday morning Faith Education classes will occur at 9:45. This allows people from both the services to attend classes together creating relationships with people from both worship times. We also would have a common time between services for church-wide forums and receptions. It also puts all our children in class at the same time creating a greater number which allows us to divide for age appropriate instruction. This also allows families to worship together, and it brings children and youth into our worship community.

Beginning June 2nd:

Sunday morning
8:45 Worship
9:45 Faith Education Hour
10:45 Worship

How did this decision come about? The idea was instigated from conversations of parents with young children. They see it as a way for families to share in Faith Education and worship together. It was discussed by our staff, advanced by Church Council and approved unanimously by Church Conference in December where every member has a vote. The last time Saint Paul UMC changed worship times was in 2000. Then and now, the church responds to help people grow in faith and discipleship.

New Pastoral Associate Announced

In consultation with our District Superintendent, Staff Parish Relations Committee of Saint Paul UMC will be hiring Jed Linder as our new Pastoral Associate. Jed will be leading our neighborhood outreach ministries, developing spiritual growth opportunities, and assisting with pastoral care. He earned a Master of Theology degree from Duke Divinity School with an emphasis in biblical studies, a Master of Divinity from Fuller Theological Seminary, and a BA from Southern Methodist University. Jed is a Lincoln native returning to his home town after serving churches in California. He will officially begin here on July 1; however, you'll be seeing him in worship before then. Please welcome Jed to our faith community.

Mission Ministry

Welcome Kits for Residents of the Ambassador and President Apartments

Did you know that...

* Over 25 years ago, Saint Paul UMC partnered with First Plymouth and the Unitarian Church to save from demolition the Ambassador and President apartment buildings at 14th and Lincoln Mall?

* Those historic buildings, which once housed state senators, were saved to provide affordable housing in downtown Lincoln?

* Because of a recent renovation, those buildings now contain 71 updated efficiency and one-bedroom units, available to persons with limited income?

* Saint Paul UMC remains involved in the management of those buildings through representation on the Interfaith Housing Coalition?

If all of that is news to you, it's okay. What's more important now is that you will soon have an opportunity to help supply "welcome kits" to new A & P residents, many of whom have almost no possessions when they move in. Those kits will include basic items, such as personal hygiene and cooking supplies. For the next several Sundays we will have a sample "welcome kit" at the back of the sanctuary and a list of items that we hope to include in those kits. With your help we will be collecting items on the list and providing them to the Interfaith Housing Coalition for distribution as needed. Please take a copy of the list and consider purchasing and bringing listed items to the church. We know from experience that those who receive the kits will be very grateful.



April Noon Concert

Join us on April 5 at 12:00 p.m. for Concordia University's Cantamus Women's Choir. Lunch available for \$5 beginning at 11:30 a.m. The McKinley Bells, played by Nancy L. Schoen, will be heard prior to the concert. For further information, contact Dick Morris (402) 261-3104 or crichardmo@gmail.com

April Art Exhibit

We will feature the work of students from the Art Department of Concordia University in Paine Parlor for the month of April.

Musical instrument additions

A piano for the Chapel:

A beautiful and excellent Wm. Knabe Parlor Grand Piano has been given in memory of Harold and Marge Borman. We are grateful to their children, Patty and Andrew Bohart, Deborah and Jim Ring, and Kathryn Borman, for this gracious gift to the church. The piano will be used during Saturday evening services as well as other special events.

A dolly for the harpsichord:

We give thanks to Tom Silletto, who spent numerous hours both in the design and construction of the dolly. This will make it possible to easily move the harpsichord as needed in the Chancel area. We are grateful to Tom and his wife, Rogene for this gracious gift to the church and their ongoing support of the music program in so many ways.

Chancel Chat

"Take time to be holy" This line out of a well known Methodist hymn seems to suggest Holy Week culminating in Easter. As I write this, we just entered Lent with a special Ash Wednesday and our Chancel Choir participating for the first time in many years. So it seems so far in the future to be thinking about Holy Week now. April will include some very special music for Lent, for Holy Week and the Chancel Choir singing Britten's "Rejoice in the Lamb" on April 28. We open April with an anthem well known by the congregation celebrating our world and its beauty John Rutter's "For the Beauty of the Earth". The beginning of Holy Week, Palm Sunday, the choir will sing "Lift Up Your Heads" from Handel's "Messiah. Moving through Holy Week to Good Friday Mozart's beautiful and passionate "Lachrymosa" from Requiem will be sung in this service bringing us to Easter Sunday. What a celebration this will be. The Chancel Choir will be assisted by the Saint Paul Brass and Percussion. Some of the music included you will recognize as standards for the Easter service. Dick Morris will end the service with Widor's "Toccatà" played as only he can play it. This will follow the choir singing The Hallelujah Chorus from "The Messiah", another Easter service tradition. Since the Chiara String Quartet has disbanded and will not be playing in the service, the choir will be singing two major anthems. "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" will be one of these. It is a powerful and majestic addition to the service.

"Rejoice in the Lamb" is a relatively early composition by Benjamin Britten but one that is heard often in concerts and worship services. Written for choir, four soloists and organ, this composition utilizes the poetry of Christopher Smart and is taken from his larger work Jubilate Agno translated as Rejoice in the Lamb. Written in eight sections, the composition explores the mind of the insane Christopher Smart and his deep faith as expressed in the use of biblical references. Smart wrote his poetry while in a mental hospital but the power of his theological imagery is found throughout. At one point he cries out in despair comparing himself to Jesus. This moment is one of the most dramatic and wrenching moments in the poem: "For I am under the same accusation with my Savior. For they said, he is besides himself. For the officers of the peace are at variance with me. And the watchman smites me with his staff. For silly fellow is against me and belongeth neither to me nor to my family. For I am in twelve hardships, but He that was born of a virgin shall deliver me out of all." Incredibly insightful for a person who was out of his mind, I think. I hope you will join us for each of these inspired worship opportunities. Kirstie Engel and I will dialogue about the "Rejoice in the Lamb" on April 28. I will take on the role of the insane Christopher Smart, type-cast some of you may think!

Bill Wyman
Your sane Director of Music

Midweek Connect

4:30-5:30 p.m.	Open Youth Room/Gym	W. Tower Room/BFLC
5:00-5:45 p.m.	Golden Angels Rehearsal	Sanctuary
5:00-6:30 p.m.	Dinner	Dining Room
6:00-6:30 p.m.	Cherub Choir Rehearsal	Room 226
6:00-6:30 p.m.	Sonshine Singers Rehearsal	Room 227
6:00-7:30 p.m.	Saint Paul Youth Group	W. Tower Room
6:30-7:30 p.m.	Adult Classes & Groups	Varies
6:30-7:30 p.m.	Kids Hour	Meet in Room 224
6:30-7:15 p.m.	Rezounding Praise Rehearsal	Room 227
7:30-9:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary

The nursery is available from 6:00-8:15 for children ages 3 & under

Youth Ministry

Midweek Connect Youth Group
Wednesdays from 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Midweek Connect Dinner

\$5 for adults, \$2 for children (with a family rate not exceeding \$15)

April 3: Creamed chicken or beef stew with biscuit, carrots & peas, fruited jello, broccoli slaw, chocolate cake

April 10: Porcupine meatballs, scalloped potatoes, green beans, cole slaw, assorted sweet breads, butterscotch dessert

April 17: Spaghetti with meat or marinara sauce, garlic bread, leafy green salad with dressing, corn, pineapple cake

April 24: Taco bar that includes hard & soft shells, ground beef, cheese, salsa, onions, hot peppers, tomatoes, lettuce, sour cream, refried beans, fiesta corn salad, ice cream bars

Children's Ministry

Midweek Connect Kids Hour: Ages 4-Grade 5
Wednesdays from 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Midweek Connect Kids Music

Cherub Choir: Age 3-Grade 1
Rehearsals are Wednesdays from 6:00-6:30 p.m. in Room 226

Sonshine Singers: Grades 2-5
Rehearsals are Wednesdays from 6:00-6:30 p.m. in Room 227

Adult Ministry

Midweek Connect Adult Classes

Wednesdays from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Gospel of John
FaithLinks
On Being a Parent

Adult Choirs with Wednesday Rehearsals

Praise Team (9 a.m. Worship Song Leaders): 5:30 p.m. in Room 223
Rezounding Praise (9 a.m. Praise Choir): 6:30 p.m. in Room 223
Chancel Choir (10:30 a.m. Choir): 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary



PERIODICAL
POSTAGE PAID

Saint Paul News

Saint Paul United Methodist Church
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www.SaintPaulUMC.org

RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED

Holy Week and Easter Worship

Palm Sunday

April 14 at 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Holy Thursday

April 18 at 7:00 p.m.

Holy Friday

April 19 at 7:00 p.m.

Holy Saturday

April 20 at 6:00 p.m. in the Chapel

Easter morning!

April 21 at 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

