

*Join in worship this December to experience*

## **Sacred Rhythms**

### **Resounding**

#### **Sunday Morning**

8:45 and 10:45 a.m.

#### **Saturday**

6:00 p.m.

#### **Wednesday Drum**

#### **Circle**

6:30 p.m.

#### **Christmas Eve**

4:00, 7:00

and

10:00 p.m.



## **Drumbeat by Judy Holloway**

A drumbeat,  
Simple thread of rhythm,  
Woman creates the pulsating, primal pattern.  
Inviting one to join,  
Then another,  
Soon walls and floors  
And all held in the dancing cocoon  
Rock in the rhythmic groove.  
Layer after layer, pulsing, pounding,  
Filaments of rhythm fill the air,  
Stunning tempos o colors,  
Diverse sounds and timbres,  
Beautiful tapestry of sound and movement...

Unencumbered procession, now transformed,  
Within the sacred silence.  
Moving into a different place, a different space,  
Into the silence beyond the sound,  
Beyond the drumming, beyond the singing,  
Toward the light,  
To the silence of the heart, the space where  
images and stores live.

Within that realm, that holy place,  
worshippers find the gifts:  
Hope penetrating despair,  
Joy rising up out of anguish  
Shalom soothing the troubled spirit.

# Advent \* CLASSES \*



## The Christmas Gift of Reading

**Beginning Sunday, Dec. 1 at 9:45 a.m.  
in the Library (Room 153)**

One of the best Christmas gifts ever is simply reading with a child! This Christmas class at Saint Paul is for parents, grandparents, and any other family or friends who are interested in giving the amazing gift of reading with a child. Join us Sunday mornings this December when we will explore the value of reading with children and then choose books from our library to share with children over the holidays. At the Saint Paul Library we have “old classics” and “new favorites” for children that are just waiting to be discovered or rediscovered. Regular 15-minute sessions of reading with children can make a world of difference for them and for you!  
Led by Judi Cook.



## Sacred Drumming

**Beginning Wednesday, Dec. 4 at 6:30 p.m.  
in the Chapel**

Please join Rev. Jane Florence for this seasonal Advent class. Everyone has a heartbeat to add to the music of the spheres. All are invited to our drum circle, where we will practice sacred drumming bringing our bodies together in a spiritual connection to one another and the Divine. Bring a drum if you have one, but there will be lots of drums and percussion instruments for you to try out as well.  
Led by Rev. Jane Florence.

## The Jesse Tree

**Beginning Sunday, Dec. 1 at 9:45 a.m.  
in the Chapel**

The Jesse Tree is an ancient Advent practice that remembers God's providential care of the world leading up to the birth of Christ. Join Pastor Jed on Sunday mornings this December, where we will decorate a Jesse Tree with ornaments corresponding to the ancient stories of Israel. This class will feature Scripture, reflection, and creativity inviting the ancient stories into the rhythm of our contemporary lives, as we look forward joyfully to the Christmas event. Led by Pastor Jed Linder.



# KIDS

FOR CHRIST



**Mid-Week Connect:  
Advent for Kids**



**Wednesday Nights**

**November 20 - December 18**

**From 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.**

We will focus on Advent as a time to prepare for Christ's coming through crafts, prayer and missions.



### Mid-Week Connect Menu

- 12/4: taco bar with hard & soft shells, hamburger meat, refried beans, cheese, salsa, lettuce fiesta corn salad, marble cake.

- 12/11: mostaccioli with sauce or runza casserole, garlic cheese biscuits, fruit salad, peas & carrots, pumpkin dessert.

- 12/18: hot dogs, chili dogs, pigs in blankets, chicken nuggets, french fries, green beans, lettuce salad with dressings, chocolate cake.

# 2020 Faith Formation Classes

## The Wisdom Jesus

**Beginning January 5 at 9:45 a.m.**

Join in conversation with Rev. Jane and others to journey through this challenging and remarkable book by Cynthia Bourgeault. We start in January with transformative lessons in vocabulary, giving new meaning to perceptions like “head,” “heart” and “repentance” common in Western teachings of Jesus. Cynthia Bourgeault’s writing introduces us to Jesus as a wisdom teacher providing fresh understandings of Matthew and Luke’s messages in light of Nag Hammadi discoveries. The text emphasizes a notion of “self-emptying love” that allows for a shift in consciousness from ego-based analysis to acceptance of divine abundance, which in turn sheds new light on examinations of the Passion, crucifixion and ensuing events. The last five weeks during Lent will offer wisdom practices in meditation, lectio divina, chanting and eucharist. Deepen and expand your knowledge and experience of Christ with these contemplative reflections.  
Led by Rev. Jane Florence

## Reviving Ophelia

**Beginning January 8 at 6:30 p.m.**

This book speaks to the real lives of teenage girls. Written by local authors Mary Pipher and her daughter Sara Pipher Gilliam, they note, “girls still grapple with misogyny, depression, and issues of identity and self-esteem. This new generation of girls has a greater chance than their mothers did of becoming depressed, anxious, or suicidal. This is a revised and updated version of the book originally published 25 years ago, and it’s for anyone who has a teenage girl in their lives, as a daughter, granddaughter, niece, neighbor, client, or student. In reality, it’s for all of us, because in our interconnected community, all girls are a part of our lives. Led by Marilyn Moore.



**Jed Linder**

Associate Pastor

Register for all adult classes on the weekly connect card, on the Church Center App, or by emailing Jed Linder at [jlinder@saintpaulumc.org](mailto:jlinder@saintpaulumc.org).

## Myers-Briggs Personality Types

**Beginning January 22 at 6:30 p.m.  
in the Library (Room 153)**

The Myers-Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI) is an introspective personality test that isolates some of our core psychological preferences on how we perceive the world and make decisions. For our class, we will each take the personality test and then spend the following weeks discussing each of the traits, learning about preferences and how we function according to those preferences. This class will also give us insight into our interactions with others and they respond to our behaviors.  
Led by Rev. Lyn Seiser.

## Meet the Mystics

**Beginning February 19 at 6:30 p.m.**

Christian mysticism has its roots in our Jewish heritage, Greek thought, and early Christian clerics. Early Christian mystics were ridiculed then revered, ostracized before venerated. They wrote Christian doctrine and challenged institutional hypocrisy. They shared a passion for relationship in union with God experienced in extraordinary visions and insights. Join in conversation and introduction to these remarkable figures such as: Francis of Assisi, Catherine of Siena, Augustine, Jean Vianney, Teresa of Avila, and Thomas Moore.  
Led by Rev. Jane Florence.

## The Book of Acts Coming this Spring

Join Rev. Jed as we study the very beginnings of the Christian community led by colorful characters such as Peter, John, Stephen, Priscilla, and, of course, Saint Paul. Acts follows the first apostles as they proclaim the gospel from Jerusalem to the “ends of the earth,” often facing violent reactions. This class is good for anyone, regardless of your biblical knowledge.  
Led by Rev. Jed Linder

# Small Groups and Gatherings



## Non-Fiction Book Group

**Will NOT meet in December.**

Looking ahead, we'll be discussing Blowout by Rachel Maddow at our meeting on January 14. Start the new year with a new book, and look forward to conversation with other readers!

## Wednesday Morning Book Discussion

**January 22 at 10:00 a.m.**

**Room 155**

Join us for the next meeting of the Saint Paul UMC Wednesday Morning Book Group! We'll discuss the OBOL selection Far Away Brothers by Lauren Markham. (We don't meet in December). Need more info?

**Contact Judy Jensen at (402)-420-6370.**



## Fair Trade Pop-Up Sale Ten Thousand Villages

**Friday, Dec. 6  
from 10:00 - 2:00 p.m.**

### Downstairs Parlor

Shop for beautiful, hand-crafted gifts created by artisans throughout the world. Because all items are fairly traded, you are assured that makers have had a voice in setting a fair price, using sustainable materials, incorporating traditional designs, and working in safe, healthy settings. This sale provides a relaxed space in which to shop for coffee, chocolate, jewelry, scarves, nativities, soaps, household items, and so much more! 15% of sales will benefit the UMC-sponsored Nigerian Orphanage in Jalingo.



## Help Us Warm Our Community!



Seeking donations of new winter hats, gloves, mittens and scarves of all shapes, colors and sizes. We are especially in need of men's gloves. Donations can be dropped off at the display in the Welcome Center.

We will also be accepting monetary donations which will be used to purchase the requested items.



# Children and Family Opportunities



## Holiday Cookie Walk

Friday, December 6 from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Calling all cookie lovers! Come join the fun and help support this Saint Paul Fundraiser! Choose your favorite holiday goodies, for only \$10.00 per box. Soup and sandwich lunch will be served from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. for \$5. Ten Thousand Villages Fair Trade Pop-up sale will be located in the downstairs parlor to help with your Christmas shopping as well as a free concert over the noon hour located in the sanctuary. Everyone is welcome!



**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](mailto:clink@saintpaulumc.org).

## Family Gingerbread Workshop

Sunday, December 8

from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

in the Dining Room

Kick off the holiday season with family fun by decorating a gingerbread house! Bring your creativity and a bag of candy to share. Cost is \$12 per gingerbread house. Stew and a variety of soups will be available for dinner. You'll leave with a sweet creation that's sure to be a great centerpiece for your family holiday gatherings. Space is limited so register soon at [www.saintpaulumc.org](http://www.saintpaulumc.org)



# Blue Christmas Worship

**Saturday, December 7  
6:00 p.m. in the Chapel**

The holidays can be lively and full of cheer, but not for everyone. For those who struggle during the holidays with grief or depression, it can feel particularly out of sync with the season. Any are welcome to this service of naming loved ones that are missed or acknowledging other loss. You can also come to be part of a supportive and caring faith community here for one another.

## Holiday Hours

**The church office will be closed on Dec. 25 and 26th. We will be closing at noon on the 27th. We will also be closed on Dec. 31 and Jan. 1. Happy Holidays!**

## Giving To Others Through Heifer International

Once again during the Advent Season, you will have the opportunity to make the lives of others more sustainable. Through your donations, the gifts are received by those in our country as well as countries overseas. Please stop by the Advent Heifer table in the Bevins Family Life Center on Sunday, **Dec. 8, 15, 22. AFTER first service.** Materials will also be available at the Saturday evening services.

**For questions, please contact Diane Bartels, 402-429-3342, Tom & Rogene Silletto, 402-483-6323, or the church office.**

## December Worship

### Dec. 1:

- Changing the Rhythm of the Season
- Luke 17: 21
- Holy Communion
- Guest music by Lincoln's Boys Choir \*

### Dec. 8:

- Rhythm of Connectedness
- Isaiah 40: 3-5
- Special music, two anthems and hymn composed by Willa Foster-Jones\*

### Dec. 15:

- Rhythm of Joy
- John 15: 9-11
- Special Music: two anthems including variations on Mary's Magnificat\*

### Dec. 22:

- Rhythm of Wholeness
- Isaiah 61: 1-3

### Dec. 24:

- Christmas Eve services
  - 4:00- family
  - 7:00 - traditional
  - 10:00 contemplative

### Dec. 29:

- Jed Linder preaching
- Bill Wyman's farewell at 10:45 a.m. worship service\*

*\*10:45 a.m. worship service*

## Weekly Communion

### Beginning on December 8

With the dawn of Advent we are entering into a new year for the church: year 2020. And, like all new church years, we are brought to focus on the amazing love God showed the world through Christ Jesus. This year we at Saint Paul will focus on, with 20/20 vision, Christ's love every week by adding an optional sharing of communion in the chapel after both the 8:45 and 10:45 worship services. This will be in addition to, not in lieu of, the Holy Communion shared church-wide during worship on the first week of the month. Our prayer is that through this new weekly Sacrament we may better remember, and experience, God's awesome love through Christ.

# United Methodist Women News



## Campus Ministry

Campus Ministry is forever changing and challenging but has always been exciting and affirming. We average 20 students who participate in on-campus Tuesday night weekly worship, 5-10 that attend one of the weekend worship services here at Saint Paul and 2-4 that join mid-week connect meals. The advisory board is anticipating 20+ for a Friendsgiving meal and will probably distribute 100 final's week "care packages" in December. **If delivering a care package or two or donating to these events excites you, please contact Pastor Lyn** for more information or click on the Saint Paul UMC Campus Connect's donate now button on



**Rev. Lyn Seiser**

Associate Pastor,  
Campus Ministry

Register for these events on the weekly connect card, on the Church Center App, or by emailing Lyn Seiser at [lseiser@saintpaulumc.org](mailto:lseiser@saintpaulumc.org).

## UMW Unit Meeting

**Wednesday, December 4  
10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
in the Dining Room**

In addition to Rev. Florence's Christmas message, we will be installing new officers, having Special Mission Recognition and reviewing a Maternal and Child Health Display. **RSVP to Gay Nelson or Church Office at (402) 477- 6951.**

## Turn the Page

**Monday, December 2 at 7:00 p.m.  
in Room 145**

We will discuss The 2019 One Book-One Lincoln: Two Young Migrants and the Making of an American Life by Lauren Markham. Visitors and new members are always welcome.

## UMW Circle 1

**Monday, December 16 at 7:00 p.m.  
in Paine Parlor**

Speaker: Lyn Seiser on Campus Ministry  
in Lincoln

**Collection will be taken for families in  
need for Christmas.**

## Year-End Giving

If you want your charitable giving for deduction on your 2019 taxes, please bring or mail your contribution to the church **by Jan. 6 with check dated by Dec. 31, 2019.** For those who need to take a distribution from retirement accounts, it may be beneficial to make contributions prior to year's end. Check with your accountant.

**Jan. 5 - Feb. 2**

**Join us for worship as we explore core beliefs from religions around the globe.**

**Saint Paul UMC**

**Sat. 6:00 p.m.  
Sun. 8:45 a.m.  
& 10:45 a.m.**

**These golden threads of truth weave through the sacred texts of the world where we find our unity as one.**



**First Friday Music and Art Concert**

**December 6 at 12:10 p.m.**

This concert features Catherine Herbener, harpsichord and William McMullen, oboe in a concert of music from the 18th century. Ms. Herbener is a well known performer and studio piano teacher in Lincoln. She has appeared as pianist on concerts provided by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln School of Music as well as guest artist on concerts in Iowa, Michigan, Colorado, Nebraska and England.

A graduate of the Julliard School in New York, Dr. McMullen is well known for recitals performed at the University of Nebraska School of Music where he is a faculty member and teacher of oboe as well as performances throughout the United States and Europe.

An art show provided by the Noyes Gallery, featuring Lynette Fast. Lynette Fast, artist and teacher, has an abstract style in multiple mediums. Her inspiration comes from nature in the form of flowers, birds and landscape.

There is no charge for this concert. Opportunity for a free-will donation will be provided. Lunch is available for purchase. A performance on the Saint Paul McKinley Bells will precede the concert. Further information may be obtained by calling the church at

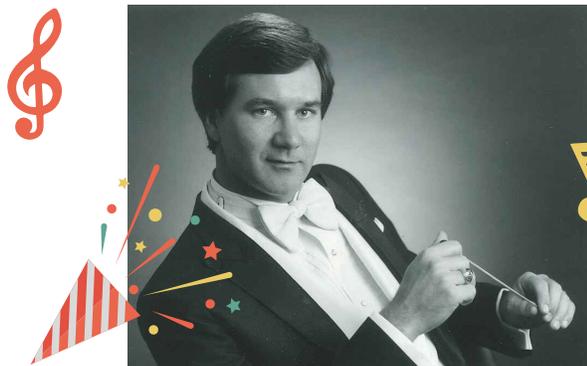
**(402) 477-6951.**

**Winter Sermon Series**

Oftentimes, people compare religions as a way to identify the differences between them. That can be useful. However, it is also appropriate to find our commonalities. The wisdom traditions around the world share many of the same threads of truth. Enlightenment, Integrity, Humility, Acceptance of others, Loving kindness and Compassion core beliefs religions share and foster around the globe. Join us for worship Jan 5- Feb 2 as we explore these golden threads of truth that weave through the sacred texts of the world where we find our unity as one.

**Farewell to Dr. Wyman  
December 15 at 12:00 p.m.  
in the Bevins Family Life Center**

Join in honoring Dr. Wyman as he retires from 41 years of ministry as our Director of Music. Menu will be chicken breast with rice, green beans, rolls, jello salad and dessert. Donation offering. Express Saint Paul UMC thanksgiving and retirement congratulations to Bill.



### **Its Been Good to Know You**

So long, farewell, auf wiedersehn, au revoir. Hard to imagine that 41 years have come and gone. During that time I have observed so many changes but there are things that have been consistent since I began as Director of Music in September, 1979. Principal among these is the consistency of dedication by the Chancel Choir. It is hard for me to fully express the depth of my appreciation to these singers some of whom, began with me when I arrived. Peg Shorney, Marilyn Moore, Carol Knolle Faulkner, Shirley Wilcox, Corey Brubaker all have made weekly commitments to the choir since that time. Eric Bachenberg has provided essential maintenance of our keyboard instruments for many years. Jan Peck, our choir mom, has helped with music both distributing and collecting our music for the week. Kendra Hartwig has helped her with this. Bob Cook has been so helpful in sound system assistance and as an instrumentalist for many of the choir anthems. Tom and Rogene Silletto have been so valuable in providing help with the First Friday Concert Series and various construction projects including the dolly for the harpsichord. All conductors have one person behind them who without that person's support could not be successful be it a significant other or wife. Tami has been that person for me for 34 years and she shares in whatever I have been able to accomplish at Saint Paul. I have worked with four senior pastors all of whom have had their individual preferences for how worship should be accomplished each Sunday and many associate clergy who were so supportive of what the choir contributed. I value all these people and their collegiality. Support staff have come and gone but these are the unsung heroes of any church. They work behind the scenes tirelessly. The congregation of this church has been faithful and enthusiastic in support of the choir and our music ministry. I am grateful to all and can only say THANK YOU which really doesn't express the depth of my appreciation. Over the years we have enjoyed the talents of many scholarship singers. From our first Christmas Eve together when we presented "Amahl and the Night Visitors" to so many of our special music presentations it has been a joy to work with them and see how so many of them have gone on to the world of professional singing. It is still amazing to me that the scholarship singers who were featured in that first Christmas Eve service became leads in the Philadelphia, Chicago, San Francisco, New York City and Connecticut Opera Companies. One of these I heard recently singing with the Metropolitan Opera in New York. Ann Moore who sang the Mother in the that service has continued to be a major force in Lincoln music circles. Kevin Scheele has the record for the longest serving scholarship singer and also has served as Assistant Chancel Choir Director. Because of his ties to Saint Paul, we currently host the Lincoln Boys Choir. It has been an honor and privilege to associate with such fine people.

So I leave excited for what will follow, a full-time music ministry for the Chancel Choir and the continuing of a long and exciting tradition of pace setting music. I will always be grateful for the support this church has shown me from day one.

December is a wonderful time of so much great music and we will maintain that tradition this month. After beginning the month with the Lincoln Boys Choir under the direction of Kevin Scheele, the Chancel Choir will offer two anthems for most of the Sundays in December. Special again this year is our collaboration with founding Mannheim Steamroller members Almeda and Jackson Berkey on Christmas Eve for the 7 p.m. service. They have provided for Saint Paul many years of exciting and memorable worship. My last service with you will be Sunday, December 27. I am looking forward to a very special Sunday together. As I move into the full retirement phase of my life, I will look back with so many fond memories. I thank you.

Bill Wyman  
Director of Music

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www.saintpaulumc.org

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**December 2019**

RETURN SERVICE  
REQUESTED

Christmas Eve Service from 2018  
featuring *Silent Night* by candle light



## Sacred Rhythms Resounding

### Christmas Eve Services

#### 4:00 p.m.

A worship experience for the whole family includes traditional carols led by our Praise musicians. All children join in drum processional to lead the congregation in *Little Drummer Boy*. Service concludes with *Silent Night* by candle light.

#### 7:00 p.m.

Our Chancel Choir leads our traditional carols in this service and gifts us with two anthems accompanied by guest musicians including Almeda and Jackson Berkey of *Mannheim Steamroller*. Go forth from this service with *Silent Night* in candlelight.

#### 10:00 p.m.

A quieter, contemplative spirit is evoked in this worship which includes familiar Christmas carols, special music, and Holy Communion. We will go out into the *Silent Night* in candlelight.

**Bring your family, invite your neighbors, extend  
Christmas warmth to all!**

