

THE MESSENGER

OCTOBER 2025

Building Our Legacy



Dear Friends of St. Paul's,

For months and months, you all have been watching our community get ready to launch a capital campaign. The day is finally here—the **Building Our Legacy Campaign** is no longer a distant dream or a ‘someday maybe’. **On Sunday, September 28 we are launching the campaign.**

There has been a tremendous amount of work, prayer, and hope put into this in the last six months. I haven't done the exact math, but I'm sure that more than half the congregation has participated in one way or another, from *Faith in Our Future* back in 2021 all the way until today.

On Sunday, September 28, we will be having a big celebration in church to officially launch the campaign.

While this campaign is about raising funds for significant capital projects, it is also an opportunity for us to celebrate our community, our legacy, and our common purpose. For generations this church has spread good news, served God, and served the community—in good times and bad times. We could do this because of the generosity of those who came before us, who made sacrifices to build a church, a hospital, an after school program and much more.

No matter what our final dollar amount may be, this is a fun and in-

spirational time to reflect on who we are and who we are becoming together. I know and trust that the Holy Spirit is with us in this work, for every twist and turn, for every win and every set back, so that we become a better church together.

On September 28, every household on our roster will receive a visit and a little gift. The Campaign's Inspiration Team has been hard at work on this, planning out complex maps, recruiting drivers, and hanging out in the kitchen working on top-secret projects. Don't miss the little invite card to our All Parish Event at the Aquarium on Sunday, November 2 at 6:00 pm.

Please see page 2 for information about campaign leadership, and what you can expect as we go into October and November. Please mark your calendars for Sunday, November 9, when we will celebrate our commitments, turn in our pledge cards, and conclude the campaign.



Peace,
Maggie

Who's Who in our Capital Campaign?

Below is a list of the leaders of various teams putting on the Building Our Legacy campaign. If you have questions regarding a part of the campaign, please reach out to one of the team leaders.

Rector

Maggie Nancarrow rector@stpaulsduluth.org

Guides vision and preaches about the campaign, invites early giving during the quiet phase through personal conversations

Campaign Chairs

Nancy Schuldt ncosta2799@charter.net

and Sherry Hall marysharonhall@gmail.com

Responsible for the over-arching management of the campaign, speaking about the vision, and ensuring the success of the teams

Campaign Warden

Tom Elliott elliottt793@gmail.com

As interim property chair and junior warden, Tom is the vestry warden most involved in the campaign. He has helped with Response team and project cost estimates.

Pete Reuss and Paul Walters

GSB Consulting

Pete and Paul are our consultants helping us organize the campaign. They have been working closely with our team leaders, preparing our graphic materials, and giving the campaign clear structure.

Inspiration Team

Chair: John Pastor jpastor@d.umn.edu

Responsible for:

- Gift Bags delivered on September 28
- St. Paul's Story Booklet
- Campaign Prayer
- Prayer Vigil

Information Team

Chair: Tamara Jansen tamarabainjansen@gmail.com

Responsible for:

- Print materials and production of campaign prospectus
- Social Media Support
- Bulletin Inserts each week

Special Events Team

Chair: Charles Sundquist charles.sundquist@gmail.com

Responsible for:

- Hospitality for campaign volunteers
- Leadership Event
- All-Parish Event

Response Team

Chair: Jay Austin jaustin@d.umn.edu

Responsible for:

- Planning for Early Gifts in the Quiet Phase
- Following up with households after the close of the campaign
- Supporting thank you efforts

An Important Note About Annual Giving 2026

This year, you will be invited to make two pledges through a special **Statement of Intent** card. One will be a one-year commitment for the annual ministry of the parish for 2026. The other will be a three-year commitment for capital improvements.

Our annual needs have not changed dramatically over the last year. Our annual fundraising goal for 2026 is \$400,000. We hope you will consider a modest increase to your annual pledge, to help us continue to do our ministry here at St. Paul's.

Fall News from Faith Formation

Hi there!

I hope you and yours have had a great September so far. We have been busy looking at all the pears, plums, apples, mushrooms and creatures that are abundant in this neighborhood this time of the year. I am thankful that the light changes so kids and grownups can get the rest they need. It feels like a gradual and welcome slowing.

I'm glad to say the year has kicked off — it feels official after Rally Day. It was great to see so many happy kids last Sunday, and to pretend for a few minutes that I was still one of them watching a Godly Play lesson at the front of the Church.

Here's what you need to know for the coming weeks!

Godly Play is back in full swing, and will be meeting down-stairs from here until the end of May. The lessons for the next month are:

- September 28- The Great Family
- October 5- Joseph
- October 12- The Exodus
- October 19- Ten Best Ways
- October 26- Ruth

Middle Schoolers are meeting after church beginning on Sept. 28 in the **couch room** on the fourth floor after church. We'll start with a centering prayer, life check in, learn about a Holy Troublemaker beginning with Pauli Murray, talk about what's on our minds and hearts, and eat! Lunch will be provided, and there will be a treat or two to sweeten the deal. Please plan on sending your middle school aged kids up to the fourth floor right after service, and allow around an hour after the service ends (usually 12:15-12:30 depending.)

The Middle School Group meets on these Sundays:

September 28, October 12, October 26, November 9, November 23, December 7, and December 21.

Confirmation has begun! Last night we had a great first session. I am grateful for Karen Allison, and the work she put into teaching these wonderful kids last year. We will miss her as life calls her in other directions, but are looking forward to digging into a little bit of Episcopal MN history, reading Where Wolves Don't Die by Anton Treuer, and planning some big end of the year projects! We will be meeting at 6:30 in the bean bag room on the 4th floor on these Wednesday evenings:

October 1, October 15, October 29, November 5, November 19, December 3, and December 17.

On October 17-19, Visitors from St. Paul's will be spending a weekend at White Earth. Our church has been invited to

share in a slice of life across the state. All ages are invited, and there will be a few choices for accommodation for those not planning on chaperoning. Confirmands are not required, but strongly encouraged, to participate! We will worship at historic St. Columba Episcopal in Becker on Sunday morning. Please get your copy of Where Wolves Don't Die if you haven't already, and email Mark Olson (markolson1966@gmail.com), Sophie (kids@stpaulsduluth.org) for more information. Or talk with our confirmation teachers: Joanne Ersamer and Brad Brunfelt. Please confirm your interest with one of us by October 1.

If there is a child in your family that is new to the church, and you haven't filled out a general registration form for them, we'd appreciate it if you did so. There will be some sitting in the Parish Hall for the next week or so as we get going. You can return completed forms to Sophie at the 10 am service on Sundays. Submitting the registration form lets us know a few basic things, and makes it easier to keep you in the loop. That's all for now! Happy Trails, Happy October!

Peace to you.

*Sophie Gray Spehar,
Faith Formation Coordinator*

<https://stpaulsduluth.org/sign-up/>



**Sign UP TO HELP Serve a Wednesday Night Meal!
USE THIS LINK:**

All Ages Fun Service Night



Please join us on Wednesday, October 29, 6:00-7:30 pm in the Parish Hall at St. Paul's for an all-ages Service Night! We will be carving pumpkins, decorating cookies, writing cards, and assembling care packages for Parishioners on our prayer list or who are home-bound. A light supper will be served, and there will be hot apple cider! Please email kids@stpaulsduluth.org with questions.

*Sophie Gray Spehar
Faith Formation Coordinator
kids@stpaulsduluth.org*

From Your Vestry



In the Episcopal Church the vestry is the lay governing body or board of directors of the parish community. The vestry is responsible for the spiritual visioning and the business matters of the parish. It meets monthly, on the third Tuesday, for about two hours in the evening. In addition, it con-

ducts the annual budget meeting and annual Parish meeting, both in January. Vestry terms are for three years unless filling a vacant seat for a shorter duration. Serving on the vestry is both meaningful and fun. One gets to know other vestry members well and participate in the corporate business of the parish in a collegial, impactful way.

These fellow Parishioners are your current vestry members with their term dates shown (beginning year; end year):

Diana Dodge	2024-2027
Jason Butcher	2024-2027
Chuck Sundquist	2024-2027
Susan Furo	2025-2028
Jay Austin	2025-2028
Wendy Saliin	2025-2028

Please reach out to these vestry members with your questions, comments, and concerns regarding the affairs of the parish, including finance, property, sponsored activities, stewardship, and resources. With your input we can better serve the Parish.

Peace,
*Thomas Elliott
Junior Warden*

Nancy Diener	Senior Warden	2024-2026
	Member	2022-2024
Tom Elliott	Junior Warden	2024-2026
	Senior Warden	2026-2028
Diane Morin		2023-2026
John Pastor		2023-2026
Angie Shambour		2023-2026

Notes of a Different Kind

Many of you have heard me tell the story how I came to be an organist. My family was housesitting for a professor couple in Kalamazoo, Michigan in the summer of 1975. They were musicologists and had a huge collection of vinyl record albums all over the house. The records that were on the shelves that we could see were either music from the middle ages or 20th century avant-garde composers. My 12 year-old taste in music didn't resonate very well with such esoteric music. One day, however, my sister and I realized there was a cabinet in the corner of the living room, so we opened it. There we found classical music recordings which we considered "normal." There was a complete set of the Beethoven symphonies among many other big names: Mozart, Brahms, Bach, etc. In this part of their collection was an album titled, "E. Power Biggs' Greatest Hits." It was this record that turned me on to playing the organ. It was a smorgasbord of various composers and periods of music history, from Bach to Widor to Charles Ives. So often, an artist will record the complete works of a given composer or historical period, but this collection showed the organ in all of its versatility and virtuosity. I returned to Hibbing after that summer determined to reach the point in my piano training where my teacher would allow me to study organ. I reached that goal and, as they say, the rest is history.

Fast forward to a couple weeks ago when we hosted the choir from St. John the Evangelist Church in St. Paul. The spouse of one of the St. John's choir members caught me after church that day and told me he had grown up in Duluth, the son of the pastor at Good Shepherd Lutheran

Church. He shared with me that not long after the pipe organ was installed, the notorious E. Power Biggs had come to play a recital at St. Paul's. It is possible this may have been the dedication of the organ when it was new. Regardless, it is such an honor to occupy the bench where Biggs once played. I was flabbergasted that my childhood hero had once played the same instrument where I now play every week. Regrettably, I never met E. Power Biggs or heard him perform live. He died in March of 1977. (I still remember the report of his death on the NBC Nightly News.) He was one of the most well-known organists of the time. Who knew when he played here in the 1950s that he would be responsible for sparking the interest of an adolescent organ nerd in the 1970s who would become the organist at St. Paul's in the twenty-first century? I'm still a bit weak in the knees when I think about it.



Peace,

*Tom Hamilton,
Minister of Music*

Lost Treasures from the Archives

This item was published in the Duluth News Tribune on September 9, 1917

Respectfully submitted,
Bob Silverness, Archivist

ST. PAUL'S PARISHIONERS PAY DEBT OF \$57,000 ON CHURCH

Formulate Plans to Consecrate Edifice October 14—Hamilton M. Peyton Inspires Work of Lifting the Mortgage.

With the St. Paul's Episcopal church entirely out of debt, preparations are being made to consecrate the church, 1710 East Superior street, Sunday, Oct. 14. The debt has been liquidated through the efforts of the parishioners. Prompted by the enthusiasm of Hamilton M. Peyton, vestryman since the opening of the church, they have contributed \$57,000. This amount covered the balance of a mortgage and interest which has been satisfied and a release recorded.

Mr. Peyton's enthusiasm is one of the biggest assets of the church. Before the old church was established at Lake avenue and Second street, he was responsible for Episcopal services in Duluth. It is said he would drive across the ice on the lake between Superior and Duluth in a sleigh to get the rector who lived in Superior, bring him to Duluth to read the service.

The services were conducted in homes of Episcopalians. As the communicants grew in numbers they looked about for a larger meeting place. Peyton assisted in the campaign to build the pioneer church, and has performed the same service in obtaining the present structure.

After St. Paul's parish had been established in 1869, the late George B. Sargent was a large factor in its growth. Previous to its construction Mr. Sargent conducted an energetic campaign to obtain funds with which to build the church. Co-operating

in his untiring efforts were the late J. B. Culver, the late William R. Stone, Mr. Peyton and Col. C. H. Graves. The optimistic church-builders procured the lot at the corner of Second street and Lake avenue and built a wooden edifice.

The consecration of the church will mark the beginning of the twenty-fifth anniversary of Dr. A. W. Ryan's rectorship. Dr. Ryan's faith in the future of St. Paul's was equal to that of the membership. He came to the church when the congregation was comparatively small, his faith in its future caused him to decline many offers to take charge of parishes that offered brighter prospects. Dr. Ryan helped make the church a meeting place of all creeds, mother to a number of Duluth churches, whose congregations held their services in St. Paul's until they were financially capable of building their own church.

The foundation of the present church of Duluth was laid in 1910. The completed building, with its site, is estimated worth \$175,000. The frontage on Superior street is 250 feet, with a depth of 140 feet.

From Your Bookkeeper

Dear Parishioners,

Your third quarter Giving Statements are being emailed to you on October 1, 2025. Please check through your inbox and spam folders carefully to locate your statement.

August 2025 financials were presented to the Finance Committee and Vestry at their September meetings. Below is a summary of the August General Operating Fund results.

MONTHLY FIGURES: August	This Month	Year-to-Date
Total Pledges collected	\$20,682.13	\$263,414.32
Total non-pledged collection	\$2,015.00	\$48,881.40
Investment support	\$7,410.18	\$62,711.21
Total Income	\$30,107.31	\$375,006.93
Total Expenses	\$45,818.68	\$391,389.87
Amount over/(short)	(\$15,711.37)	(\$16,382.94)



*The pledge collection amount for August was \$11,466.00 under the budgeted amount.

*Expenses were \$2664.00 over budget for the month of August, and \$13,127.00 under budgeted levels year-to-date.

*Our bottom line, income over expenses, for August, was a deficit of \$15,711.37.

If you have any questions, please call my office or email me at bookkeeper@stpaulsduluth.org.

Christine Melone, Bookkeeper

Deadline to submit items for the November issue of *The Messenger* is
8:00 am, Thursday, October 23, 2025.

Please email items to:

office@stpaulsduluth.org

Yoga at St. Paul's

**Thursdays, 5:30 pm,
in St. Paul's Carriage House**

Yoga is for EVERY BODY! This is a beginner class but ALL are welcome.

Colette Scheall, a longtime friend of St. Paul's, is the instructor.

Gentle Hatha Yoga, \$13 per class — please bring a mat for class.

The Carriage House is next door to church, toward 18th Avenue East. It has its own parking lot, accessed from Superior Street. No stairs, no long walks. This is a wonderful space with natural sunlight! Please try it!



Wednesday Forums in the Fall

Supper at 6 | Forum at 6:30 pm

Please join us at 5:15 pm for Wednesday Eucharist

Our Faithful Ancestors: Saints For Our Times

1st & 3rd Wednesdays | Service Projects Hosted by Sophie Spehar on the 5th Wednesday

Wednesday Forums in the Fall of 2025 will focus on saints in the Episcopal Church. In the Episcopal Church, we honor special holy people who served God and others in remarkable ways. We celebrate some of the popular traditional saints, such as Francis, Hildegard, and Ignatius. However, we have also added important faith leaders in modern times to our calendar of observances, like Pauli Murray, Deitrich Bonhoeffer, and Enmegahbowh. This year our Wednesday forums will feature saints that we don't always celebrate on Sundays, while exploring how their example can lead us for our current times. If you have a favorite quirky or unsung saint and would like to participate, please reach out to Maggie at

rector@stpaulsduluth.org

October 1: Francis and Clare

Francis is a well-known saint as both a generous giver and a lover of animals. He had a close companion named Clare who was also a saint in her own right. In their time, the church and national governments were oligarchies known for war, excess, and corruption. They made a transformative impact by living lives of generosity and service.



October 15: St. Luke and the Founding of Duluth's St. Luke's Hospital

The author of the third Gospel has been historically recognized as both a physician and an artist. Luke's history and contribution to Christianity is vast, but he made an enormous impact on the women and men of St. Paul's when they founded a hospital in Duluth. We will explore Luke's contributions and the history of the hospital at this forum.



October 29: 5th Wednesday Service Project

See page 4 for details

November 5: Witnesses in Tyranny — Oscar Romero, Deitrich Bonhoeffer and more

Deitrich Bonhoeffer was a Lutheran who famously stood up to the Nazi Regime in Germany, and wrote powerful theology about why this was the Christian's duty. Oscar Romero was a Catholic priest who spoke out against the injustice and violence plaguing El Salvador during a brutal civil war. He was assassinated while presiding at Mass in 1980.

Stay Tuned for These Forums Throughout the Year

Saints of Resistance: Deitrich Bonhoeffer, Oscar Romero, and others who spoke out against tyranny in the name of their faith.

The Saints of Advent & Christmas: St. Nicholas, St. Lucy, the Three Wise Men, and traditions about the Holy Family.

Celtic Saints: St. Columba, St. Brigid, and St. Patrick

Sundays in October & Beyond



Sunday, September 28 | Building Our Legacy Campaign Kick Off

St. Paul's has been planning and preparing for a capital campaign for some time. The campaign officially kicks off on September 28 with a speaker, and an effort to deliver a gift to every member of the parish.

Sunday, October 5 | St. Francis Day Blessing of the Animals at 2 pm

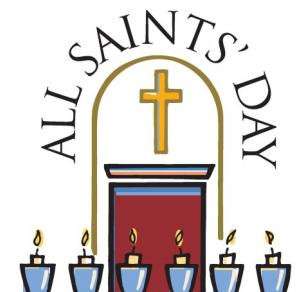


This year we will be celebrating St. Francis Day with a typical church service, and hosting our annual blessing of the animals out on the lawn at 2:00 pm. We hope

this will help us reach more people from the surrounding neighborhood, so invite your friends to this shorter (and slightly less overstimulating) service. (In the event of rain we will move indoors.)

Friday, October 17 – Sunday, October 19 | White Earth Visit

Sophie Gray Spehar and Mark Olson have planned an opportunity for members of St. Paul's to visit and build relationships with fellow Episcopalians and leaders at White Earth. This is the community of Enmegahbowh and other crucial Native faith leaders in Minnesota.



Sunday, November 2: We Celebrate All Saints

On All Saints Sunday, we will read the names of all those who have died since last All Saints Day, and you are invited to come forward and place a carnation provided by the Altar Guild into the vase when you hear the name of your loved one. Please write the name of your loved one on the clipboard at church in October. We will also have two baptisms on All Saints Sunday!

Sunday, November 2 | All Saints Sunday and All-Parish Event for the Building Our Legacy Campaign

You're invited to an event for the whole church on Sunday, November 2 at 6:00 pm. It will be a night at the Great Lakes Aquarium and an opportunity for kids, teens, and adults to celebrate life at St. Paul's while we look ahead to our future.



Sunday, November 9 | Building Our Legacy Campaign Commitment Sunday

After we have heard the words of our members, shared our own stories, and learned about the needs facing the parish, all are asked to return commitment cards for both the capital campaign and the annual campaign. Lots more details to come; please mark your calendars now.

From the Olcott Library

Recently, someone asked how to find a book in the Olcott library. So, I thought I would write a brief explanation of how the library is organized.

As you enter the Olcott room, there is a wooden card catalog immediately to your left. The card catalog is organized by author, title and subject. The author and title cards are up to date. The subject cards are no longer being kept up to date given the small size of the library and each section in the library. All the cards in the catalog contain a reference to the location of the book. In the more recent cards, a number with three capital letters underneath are in the upper right-hand corner. The number references the subject, and the letters are the first three letters of the author's last name. In the older cards, this reference is more towards the center right of the card but on the top of the card. The books are organized generally as religious on the window side of the room and secular on the fireplace side of the room. All books within each section are organized alphabetically by the author's last name.

The secular books are organized in numerical order starting from the catalogue and going from one to nine, except five.

The subject numbers are: 1. Fiction; 2. Arts, poetry, music and seasonal; 3. Prayer, spirituality and devotions; 4. Biography and memoir; 6. Creation awareness and environment; 7. Personal wellness, healing, aging and death; 8. Education, family and parenting; and 9. Social and ethical issues.

The religious books are on the window side of the room. Starting nearest the window facing Superior Street, they are organized as follows: 11. (with a blue dot) Bibles; 11. (with a gold star) Bible study and commentary; 10. Episcopal and Anglican Church including history, liturgy and commentaries; 12. World religions; and 5. Theology.

Hopefully this explanation is helpful. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to leave a note in the library box in the parish office or drop me a line at faye.m.witt@gmail.com.

Respectfully submitted,
Faye Witt, Librarian

Welcome Back Chum Quilters



A group of quilters meets at St. Paul's to craft a beautiful quilt each year to be raffled off in support of the ministries of Chum. This year's quilt is based on the artwork "Love is Here to Stay" by Jordan Sundberg at Tin Cup Design. With Asher Estrin-Haire's assistance (Stitch Craft Quilt Factory), we will have a pattern and a selection of fabrics to send home for block construction. You can find the print at tincupdesignco.com — enlarge it to identify colors. We are looking for fabrics (including prints) in these color families before we can begin work. Are you an accomplished quilter? Help us plan which fabrics to use with various pattern pieces! If you want to join us or have fabrics (100% cotton) to share, please contact Rev. Patricia Benson at pbenson@chumduluth.org.

Support Safe Haven

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month, and Safe Haven will celebrate its twentieth anniversary with two events: a gala dinner & concert at Clyde Iron on October 9 (requires tickets), as well as a free Coffee & Connections social at Greysolon Ballroom on October 16 (RSVP requested). Visit their website at www.SafeHavenShelter.org for more information.

— Zabelle Stodola, for the Outreach Committee

LAY MINISTRY SCHEDULE – OCTOBER 2025

Please find a sub if you are unavailable for your scheduled date.

	October 5	October 12	October 19	October 26	November 2
ALTAR GUILD	K Leonard	C Conrad	C Miller	D Kolquist	K Leonard
	S Cox	S Hall	L Hultkrantz	S M Anderson	S Cox
	M Malone	A Sadowski		S Sommer	M Malone
		K Timmerman		T Jansen	
		L Kania			
LECTOR 8 am	F Witt	A Mackenzie	J Pastor	M Gustafson	F Witt
LECTORS 10 am	S Sommer	N Constance	S Sommer	N Diener	N Constance
	A Harrington	Z Stodola	A Harrington	J Pastor	Z Stodola
PRAAYER LEADER	J Groth	A or P Peterson	C Miller	O Morin-Swanson	J Groth
VERGER	S Sommer	K Smith	K Smith	K Smith	K Smith
CHALICE	S Sommer	N Constance	S Sommer	S M Anderson	N Constance
BEARERS	M Gustafson	Z Stodola	J Pastor	N Diener	Z Stodola
	K Baumgarten	K Smith	K Baumgarten	J Pastor	K Smith
ACOLYTES	J Shambour (H)	J Sadowski (H)	E Erspamer (H)	A Keto (H)	J Shambour (H)
	R Wall	T Halverson	C Gustafson	S Keto	T Halverson
	Q Wall	M Spehar	H Buck	S Sundberg	S Peterson
LIVESTREAM	J Austin	D Barthel	C Meehan	N French	J Austin
COFFEE HOST	L & B Brunfelt	M Hirman and H Schreck	Erspamer Family	M & S Brown	S M Anderson and N Constance
USHERS	G Olson	N Schuld	M Brown	D Morin	G Olson
	P Waite	W Tabory	S Brown	K Swanson	P Waite
	M Gustafson		D Kolquist	J Sontag	M Gustafson
	R Lyle			H Schreck	R Lyle
LOCK UP	M Brown	T Diener	J Austin	D Pederson	B Stapp

Other Altar Guild Duties for October

October Linens:

K Leonard, S Hall

Bread-Baking:

A Rouse



St. Paul's Episcopal Church
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Duluth, MN 55812

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To receive an electronic copy of the newsletter, email us at office@stpaulsduluth.org or call 218-724-3535

Visit our website:
www.stpaulsduluth.org

Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, October 5, 2:00 pm

On the Front Lawn

St. Paul's annual Blessing of the Animals is one of the most beloved events of the year. This joyful gathering honors the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi, patron saint of animals and the environment. Meet on St. Paul's front lawn Sunday afternoon at 2:00 pm, and bring your pet on leash or in crates. Photos of pets, and stuffed animals, are also welcome. Each pet will receive a special blessing. *The Parish Hall will be our backup location in case of rain.*

