

Greetings St. Paul Lutheran Church!

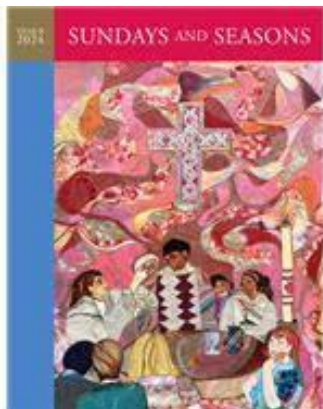


I'm excited to announce that our Early Childhood Learning Center received 5+ stars in the "Look for the Stars" county early childhood rating system. In addition to the highest rating we can get, we also received the highest rating the school has ever received. Our teachers who already start out as some of the highest rated teachers continue to improve each year. This is exciting and a great accomplishment for our school. If you see our Directors Lisa and Iven around at all, please give them a congratulations. It's due to a lot of their hard work and intentional coaching of teachers that the teachers improve these scores.

Next Saturday is the Mid-Gulf Conference Fall Gathering. I hope if you aren't helping at the Food Pantry you are able to attend. It's at Village on the Isle in Venice. Breakfast begins at 8:30a with worship beginning at 9a. It's a time for worship, learning, fellowship, and service with other ELCA members in the area. We will be learning a little about our Jewish brothers and sisters with a program by Pr. Donna Batchelor who leads classes with local Rabbis. There will be an election for a new Dean and Treasurer. I am willing to be nominated as Dean of the Conference this year. George Hutfilz is willing to be nominated as Treasurer. Irene Felicetti is already serving as Lay Chair so much of our Conference leadership will be from St. Paul if elected. The congregation with the most amount of people in attendance will receive the traveling Katie Luther Bobblehead doll. If you haven't already signed up, please let Irene or me know.



And one little, Did you know? During worship we say a lot of things. We have a Confession and Forgiveness, songs, Prayers of the Church, Offering Prayer, Prayer after Communion, and a final Blessing. Did you ever wonder where we get what we say each week? No, I don't write them but others do.



Our denomination has an amazing resource called "Sundays and Seasons". Every year this book comes out (yes, a literal book or it is also available on internet). Pastors, deacons, and lay leaders from all around the nation contribute all of these materials. They write prayers, suggest songs, and share ideas for worship. This book comes out early so worship creators have time to plan. Soon after Easter (Spring) we receive the book that we will start using in Advent (December). So for it to be compiled and printed and sent out these prayers and song suggestions are sent in almost two years before we will actually use them. While these prayers are written early, I find them so often meaningful to what is currently going on in the world.

Take care and God bless
-PrAshley