

# PASTOR'S POTPOURRI

## Fall Schedule

### *Starting September 10*

Worship 8:30 am  
Education Hour 9:40 am  
Worship 11 am  
Fellowship Time Noon

## FAQ

Q: When does giving to the Mortgage Reduction Campaign, *Forward in Faith*, begin?

A: It started on Commitment Sunday, May 21 and will continue for three years through May 2020.

Of the \$522,368 pledged, we have already received over \$149,000. This early giving, along with our regular monthly payments, has enabled us to reduce our principal to \$550,000. (It was \$725,000 before the MRC began.)

## Disaster Relief

Our denomination, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), has a robust and responsive disaster relief ministry that spans the globe. It is already in place in Houston and environs and will be throughout what will be a lengthy recovery period. Give through St. Paul, and your contribution will be forwarded to the ELCA. 100% of your gift will go directly to assist the victims of Hurricane Harvey and help with recovery efforts. (See the related article in this newsletter.)

## 80th Anniversary Sunday, November 12

A Service of Celebration at 11 am will feature a brass ensemble and our choirs. Bishop Tracie Bartholomew will preach. A reception will follow this Service, as will the dedication of our 80th Anniversary plaque. There will be a Service at 8:30 am for those who cannot make the late Service, but I encourage all other "8:30'ers" to sleep in and join us at 11 am.

The day's celebration will conclude with a banquet with a DJ and dancing at the Holiday Inn in East Windsor from 5 pm - 9 pm. Invitations will be available for pick-up from Sunday, September 10 - September 24. Those not picked up will be mailed after the 24th. Cost for the banquet is \$55 for adults and \$20 for children.

## Seminarian

Amy Jensen, a second year student at Princeton Theological Seminary, will begin her academic year of field education year with us on September 10.

## Teachers

Add up all the years of experience the teachers of our Sunday School have, and you get over 200. That's a lot of hours of preparation and classroom time. It also adds up to hundreds of children and teens who have benefited from our teachers' weekly presence, faithfulness to the Gospel, and loving influence over the years. Thanks to all of them for responding to the Spirit's call to the ministry of teaching. May God help and guide them in the 2017-2018 Sunday School year.

*Sunday School begins on September 10  
at 9:40 am for age 3 - adult.*

### **New Members**

New members will be received in November. Orientation Sessions will be held on the first four Sundays of October (1, 8, 15, and 22) during the Education Hour (9:40 am - 10:40 am). Questions? See me on Sunday or call the church office.

### **A Full Calendar**

After a well-deserved summer hiatus, we will hit the ground running in September. This newsletter and its calendar witness to that. Think of how you could give your time and talent to further and enhance the ministry of St. Paul Lutheran Church, and think of how you could benefit from your participation. In other words, give and receive - - do something for our congregation and something for yourself. As a colleague puts it, "Breathe out and breathe in."

*Thank you for your partnership in the Gospel*

*James R. Egan*