

## THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

### Sunday 1/3

9:20 am Education Time  
12:00 pm Christmas Decoration Take-Down (Sanctuary)

### Monday 1/4

#### Tuesday 1/5 *Classes Resume at LSA*

5:45 am Fitness at First Exercise Class (Rm 122) *All Welcome!*  
6:30 pm Lay Ministry Meeting (Great Room)

### Wednesday 1/6

5:30 pm F3 Dinner (Fellowship Area)  
6:00 pm SPL Children's Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)  
6:30 pm F3 Classes Meet (Varied Locations)

### Thursday 1/7

5:45 am Fitness at First Exercise Class (Rm 122) *All Welcome!*  
6:30 am Men's Bible Study (Conference Room)  
5:30 pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

### Friday 1/8

#### Saturday 1/9 *Message: Simple Changes*

4:00 pm SPL Praise Team Rehearsal (Sanctuary)  
6:00 pm Contemporary Worship (SHiNe Time - 6:15pm)

#### Sunday 1/10 *Message: Simple Changes*

8:00 am Traditional Worship  
9:20 am Education Time (Confirmation classes meet)  
10:30 am Contemporary Worship

## Welcome

### SENIOR PASTOR ERIC TRICKEY



Pastor Eric & Sara Trickey

On Sunday, December 27th we installed our new Senior Pastor Eric Trickey (who joins us in leading worship this weekend). We are excited to welcome him along with his wife Sara, and their two children

Thalassa (Thaley) and Eric Jr. - if you missed the opportunity to worship with us last weekend and meet the Trickey family, be sure to greet Pastor Eric today.

You also have the opportunity to get to know Pastor Eric by participating in our weekly Pastor's Class (on Sunday mornings at 9:20am in the Great Room - 2nd floor). He will be continuing the current study in the Book of Acts. He will also bring the message again in worship next weekend as a part of our current "Simple Changes" series. Don't miss it!

### We Worship...

Last Week in Worship (One Service): 641  
4 Week Avg. Regular Attendance: 834

...Better Together!

## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

**January 6th** *Registration available online at [spldecatour.org](http://spldecatour.org)*  
**F3: Family-Faith-Formation Winter Session Begins (1/6-2/3)**  
Basics 1&2 Winter Session Begins (*For membership at SPL*)  
Celebration of the Epiphany

### February 10th

Ash Wednesday (Worship at 12:15 & 6:30pm)  
Midweek Lenten Worship Begins (through March 16th)

### February 11th

Basics class moves to meeting on Thursdays (6:30-8:30pm)

### February 12th

*Tickets available at LSA 233-2001*

LSA PTL Chicken Dinner (4:00-7:00pm @LSA)

### February 26th-28th

Woodcutter's Retreat (@Camp CILCA)

### March 27th

Easter Sunday & New Member Welcome

## CONNECT WITH US!



Visit our updated website at [spldecatour.org](http://spldecatour.org)  
Find us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/stpaulsdecatour](http://www.facebook.com/stpaulsdecatour)

Follow us on Twitter at @SPLDecatur

View our Live Stream at [stpaulsdecatour.sermon.net](http://stpaulsdecatour.sermon.net)

Subscribe to our SPL E-Updates at <http://eepurl.com/bu3tql>



6:00 PM & 10:30 AM WORSHIP  
JANUARY 2 & 3, 2016

*Pastor Eric Trickey*

*Pastor Doug Bender*

*Pastor Wray Offermann*



What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the SURPASSING WORTH of knowing CHRIST JESUS my Lord, for WHOSE SAKE I have lost all things.

PHILIPPIANS 3:8

### Prayer Before Worship

Our Father and our God, as we stand at the beginning of this new year we confess our need of Your presence and Your guidance as we face the future. We each have our hopes and expectations for the year that is ahead of us—but You alone know what it holds for us, and only You can give us the strength and the wisdom we will need to meet its challenges. So help us to humbly put our hands into Your hand, and to trust You and to seek Your will for our lives during this coming year.

In the midst of life's uncertainties in the days ahead, assure us of the certainty of Your unchanging love. In the midst of life's inevitable disappointments and heartaches, help us to turn to You for the stability and comfort we will need. In the midst of life's temptations and the pull of our stubborn self-will, help us not to lose our way but to have the courage to do what is right in Your sight, regardless of the cost.

As we look back over this past year we thank You for Your goodness to us—far beyond what we have deserved. May we never presume on Your past goodness or forget all Your mercies to us, but may they instead lead us to repentance, and to a new commitment to make You the foundation and center of our lives this year. And so, our Father, we thank You for the promise and hope of this new year, and we look forward to it with expectancy and faith. This I ask in the name of our Lord and Savior, who by His death and resurrection has given us hope both for this world and the world to come. Amen. -- Billy Graham

### Welcome

### Invocation

### Opening Praise

*One Thing Remains*



ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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SPLECATOUR.ORG

BUILD THE HOME. CHANGE THE WORLD.

## Scripture Reading

*My Hope*

## Message

“Simple Changes: Be About One Thing”

Matthew 13:44-46

## Offering

Our offerings, gifts, and tithes are returned to Jesus in response to His sacrificial love for us. During the offering time, please complete one of the worship cards found in the pew in front of you and pass it to the center aisle.

*First*

## Confession and Absolution

We search for Your light dear Jesus, O Bright and Morning Star, but too often end up settling for the dimness of temptation. Our motives for seeking to find You are not always pure, for we expect You to fulfill our desires, rather than Your hopes for us. We want the gifts of wealth, health, success, and fulfillment, rather than those of servanthood, of compassion, of peace. Forgive us, our Creator and Redeemer, that we are so foolish as to put our selfish desires ahead of Your invitation to love and serve. Forgive us for the many times we choose fear, worry, and resentment rather than simple trust in You and Your ways. Remove our sins from us for Your name’s sake and remember them no more. Help us to be like those wise men of long ago, who found hope, instead of a destination; who found grace, instead of earthly power; who found salvation, instead of a sign. As we journey with You our Lord and Savior, fill us with the light of Your joy and love. Amen.

## Words of Institution (Saturday 6:00pm Only)

### Celebrating the Lord’s Supper (Saturday 6:00pm Only)

If you have not communed with us before, please read “Our Belief: Receiving the Lord’s Supper” located on the following page. We encourage families to commune together. Prayer ministers are available at the front and back of the sanctuary to pray with you at this time.

## Communion (Saturday 6:00pm Only)

*Healing Is In Your Hands*

*We All Bow Down*

## Prayers of the Church

*A handout with this week’s prayer concerns is available at the Usher’s Booth for those who would like to continue to pray about these concerns.*

## The Lord’s Prayer

## Blessing

## Closing Song

*Lay Me Down*

## Flowers on the Altar

Flowers on the altar are to the glory of God and in memory of their parents and daughters Kristin and Carrie, from Roger and Jeri Wenberg.

## Our Belief: Receiving the Lord’s Supper

The Apostle Paul wrote, “A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup.” (1 Corinthians 11:28) In order to examine yourself before attending the Lord’s Supper, when offered, ask yourself the following questions:

1. Do I believe I am a sinner, and am I sorry for my sins?
2. Do I believe Jesus, by His death, offers me forgiveness for all my sins?
3. Do I believe I receive the body and blood of Jesus in and with the bread and wine? (*They are not merely symbolically present.*)
4. Do I truly desire to turn from my sinful ways?

If you are able to answer “yes” to these questions, we invite you to join us for the Lord’s Supper, when offered. Children and adults who cannot answer affirmatively are invited and encouraged to come forward for a blessing but should refrain from receiving the bread and wine.\*

*\*For those who are unable, or prefer not to consume wine, cups with white grape juice are located in the center of the communion trays.*

## MESSAGE NOTES

“Simple Changes: One Thing”

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*Community Life Discussion Questions are available along with the weekly Prayer Concerns at the back of the sanctuary.*

## Volunteers Needed

Following the 10:30am worship service on Sunday, January 3rd (around 12:00pm), we need volunteers to help in the process of taking down the Christmas decorations in the sanctuary and building. Contact Heidi Sack at 423-6955 for more information.



## F3: Family-Faith-Formation Winter Session 2016

Be Changed...Be Well this Winter at SPL!

Join us on Wednesdays (Beginning January 6th)

Dinner served 5:30pm / Classes meet at 6:30pm

Interested in Membership at St. Paul’s? Sign-up for Basics 1&2

Registration is available online at [spldecat.org](http://spldecat.org)

or sign up this weekend in the Fellowship Area

## CHILDREN’S & YOUTH MINISTRY CORNER

Follow @SHiNeSPL

**Children’s Ministry:** SHiNe with us on Sundays at 9:20am (Saturday 6:15pm) for children’s education time. PreK-K meet in 206. 1st-4th Gr. meet in 203 to start. Gr. 5/6 meet in the Choir Room.

**Join us for F3 Wednesdays starting January 6, 2016!**

**BUILDING BLOCKS:** Class for Parents/Caretakers and Babies to 3 year olds on Sundays at 9:20am in Room 211. Contact Jennifer Power at 423-6955 or [jennifer@spldecat.org](mailto:jennifer@spldecat.org) for info.

**Youth Ministry:** THRIVE Senior High Youth Sundays at 9:20am (Rm 122) ([pastordoug@spldecat.org](mailto:pastordoug@spldecat.org)).

Confirmation classes resume in January (Sunday & Wednesday)