

June/July/August
2011 No. 2

The Messenger

*The newsletter of First Saint Paul's
Evangelical Lutheran Church*

Welcome Pastor Tom & Johanna Johnson, Natalie, Daniel & Joseph

On Sunday, May 8, 2011 at 4 PM the Rev. Dr. Thomas R. Johnson was installed as pastor of First Saint Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church. The Installation Service was attended by nearly 200 FSP members, friends and relatives of Pastor Johnson. The service was beautiful, enhanced with special music by the First Saint Paul's Choir, the Children's Choir, brass quartet and timpani.

A delicious dinner reception followed the Installation Service. See pictures on page 5.

First Saint Paul's extends a warm welcome to Pastor Johnson and his wife, Johanna, and their children Natalie, Daniel and Joseph. To learn a little more about Pastor Johnson and his family, turn to page 3.



The Messenger

FIRST SAINT PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

*First Saint Paul's,
established in 1846, is the oldest
Lutheran Church in Chicago.
The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod
was founded when historic meetings
were held here in 1847.*

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312.642.7172
www.fspauls.org**



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SERVICES OF WORSHIP

Sunday
9:30 AM

Wednesday Spoken Eucharist
7 AM

HOLY COMMUNION
celebrated every Sunday morning

ELECTED CHURCH OFFICERS

* Voting member of Church Council

Chairman*
Howard Ansorge

Vice Chairman*
Joel Friend

Secretary
Amy Hendricksen

Assistant Secretary
Valerie Stodden

Treasurer*
Judy Mason

Assistant Treasurer
Vacant

Financial Secretary
Lucille Nedved

Assistant Financial Secretary
Peggy Cassidy

Membership Secretary
Sandy Lawrence

Assistant Membership Secretary
Karla Lewis

**Chairperson, Board of Christian
Education ***
Mark Knoblauch

Board of Elders
Eric Ause (Co-Chair)
BJ Chakiris
Jill Chapman
Doug Harkness(Co-Chair)*

Chairperson, Board of Social Ministry*
Rev. Paul Krause

Chairperson, Board of Stewardship*
Michael Leonhardt

Chairperson, Board of Worship & Music*
Walter Heintzen

**Chairperson, Board of Evangelism
& Outreach***
John Stodden

Board of Trustees
Rich Allen
Nick Covello
Susan Rosborough
Bryan Schneider

Board of Deacons
Buff Bethlen
Elga Heintzen
John Mason
Micah Miner

Nominating Committee
Benjamin Chandler
John Chaveriat
Gary Flagler
Susan Morgan

COMMITTEE/GROUPS CHAIRS/CONTACTS

Altar Guild
Sandy Lawrence
Communications
Amy Hendricksen (Contact)
Communion Assistant Coordinator
Jody Lucey

Community Meals
Lisa Richards
Sandy Wilborn
Concordia Cemetery
John Stodden
Fellowship/Hospitality
Jan Seefeldt

Finance
Judy Mason
Human Resources Committee
Susan Rosborough
Landscape Committee
Walter Heintzen

Liturgical Arts
Darlene Fahrenkrog
Lutheran Home
Susan Rosborough
Near North Singles
Paul Meynen/David Rogner

Ushers
Vacant
Wunder's Cemetery
Rev. Delayne Pauling



Getting to Know Our New Pastor

Can you tell us a bit about your background – Where you are originally from; your family; various places you've lived, etc?

Born and raised in West Lafayette, Indiana. After graduating from Indiana University, Johanna and I were married in Texas where we lived for nine years. We lived in rural Kansas for two years and have been in the Chicago area now for six years (one of those years was my vicarage in Lockport).

Can you tell us about how/where/when you and Johanna met?

Johanna and I met through mutual friends at Indiana University School of Music. It was the fall of my junior year just before classes began. Some friends and I picked up Johanna and her friends to go to a barn dance!

What should we know about your children?

All our children love the Lord and music. All three sing and play piano. Natalie (12) is our resident actor, guitarist, and cultural satirist. Daniel (10) is our lego-robotic engineer, Star Wars specialist, and trombone player. Joseph (7) is our high-yellow belt Kenpo martial artist, fearless warrior, and life of the party.

When/How did you know you were being called for ordained ministry?

I was in fourth grade when I told my public school teacher and class that I wanted to be a minister. There were a few years in high school and college when I lost sight of that calling.

Where did you go to seminary? How do you think the challenges of seminary have changed since your time there?

I've been to three seminaries: Dallas Theological Seminary (ThM), Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, IN (MA), and Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago (DMin).

I think that the chief challenge of seminaries right now is to prepare pastors to communicate the Gospel in a post-Christian context. This is even truer today than it was 15 years ago when I graduated from Dallas.



What first attracted you to FSP?

FSP is located at the cultural epicenter of a post-Christian America. The opportunities to struggle with and succeed at sharing the love of God in Christ Jesus are seemingly endless.

What do you feel are the biggest challenges for an urban church?

The biggest challenges, I feel, are (1) a post-Christian society that has more in common with pre-Christian Rome than with "Christian America" of decades past, (2) listening to the needs and concerns of the community—spiritual and physical, (3) cultivating a missional perspective on all we do, and (4) meaningful relationships that lead to true discipleship.

How would you describe your ideal relationship with a congregation?

A good, healthy marriage: we enter into a long-term partnership with no exit plan or plan B, prolonging the honeymoon as long as possible, and cultivating trust, honesty, transparency, forgiveness, and keeping no record of wrongs.

What is one thing about you that you believe most people would be surprised to learn?

I brew beer in large quantities.

What is one thing you want everybody to know about you?

That I'm married to a wonderful person. Johanna is originally from Texas, has a Bachelor in Music Education, and a Master of Arts degree in Biblical Studies from Dallas Theological Seminary. We will have been married for 19 years this June. Johanna teaches piano and brass instruments and has about forty students.

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The Messenger

Getting to Know Our New Pastor, *continued*

What is your vision (short-term/long-term) for FSP

Short-term: to begin in our “Jerusalem”—to get to know members of FSP and the community and focus on the Good News and mission of Christ’s Kingdom. Grow deep.

Long-term: to go into our “Judea, Samaria, and to the end of the earth”—to cultivate strong, trusting relationships with members of FSP and the community, take risks, and make an effort to reach out to those outside the church. Grow wide.

How did your church experiences growing up influence you as a pastor today?

I grew up in a church (Covenant Presbyterian Church) where members reached out to newer members of the congregation and to the faith. There was true discipleship among the members. There was a consistent climate of excellence in music and preaching. That model is still with me today.

Do you have a favorite Sunday School memory?

One of my Sunday School teachers was a very tall, athletic, and humble man. None of us knew what he did for a living at the time. We just remember he was funny, loved Jesus, and was genuinely interested in us. Years later, I was shocked to find out that he was an FBI agent and carried a 45 revolver with him all the time!

Do you have a favorite hymn?

“Lift High the Cross.”



Is there a particular Bible verse that resonates with you or gives you comfort?

Deuteronomy 29:29: “The secret things belong to the Lord our God, but the revealed things belong to us and to our children forever, to observe all the words of this law.”

What is your favorite time of the church year? Why?

Holy Week. I love the drama, the contrasts, and the life-transforming truths.

Who is your favorite Saint? Why?

St. Patrick! He was missional, incarnational, and humble. I wrote my Master’s Thesis on Patrick at Dallas Theological Seminary.

What do you like to do in your free time?

Run, bike with family, concerts, travel, and read.

What was the last book that you read? Would you recommend it?

I just finished *The Five Dysfunctions of Team* by Patrick Lencioni. I would recommend it as a good model to cultivate an atmosphere of trust and effectiveness in any organization.

Do you play a musical instrument?

Classical guitar, steel string guitar, and sing.

How can we, as a congregation, pray for you?

Strong relationships with God, family, and church (e.g., encouragement, wisdom, humility, courage, marital relationship, children, and strength of Word and sacrament ministry).

Cubs or White Sox?

Cubs.



Installation Service and Welcome Reception for Pastor Johnson



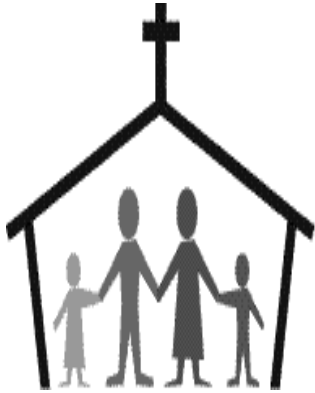
The music for the installation service was complemented by both the Adult and Children's Choirs.



Through the efforts of many FSP members, a beautiful reception was enjoyed by our guests.



Praying Through The Church



BECAUSE WE ARE A CHURCH FAMILY, a community of faith, we have a concern for one another, a concern that is expressed on Sunday mornings, as we pray for members of our church family 'by name.'

WE PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER remembering the words of St. Paul the Apostle to Timothy, "I urge, then first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone..." and the promise of our Lord Jesus Christ, "Ask and it will be given to you; seek

and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you."

WE ALSO ENCOURAGE members and friends of the congregation to make their prayer requests, births, illnesses, deaths, anniversaries, special occasions for intercession or thanksgiving, known to the pastor, preferably before the Sunday morning services, but in cases of emergency, right up to service time.

THE FOLLOWING FRIENDS & MEMBERS of our church family will be remembered in the services of worship during June, July and August. The non-member spouses of members are also listed, and even though not 'officially' members of our congregation, they are certainly included in our concern.

June 5 – Peter Kolch; Evelyn & David Konstam; Laura Kraft; Rev. Paul & Karren Krause; Kim Krubeck and Lena; Vicki Ladage

June 12 – Dale Lagerholm; Mary Langman; Norman & Janis Larsen; Sandy Lawrence; Michael Leonhardt & Karla Lewis; Bin Li

June 19 – Virginia Liles-Dudley & Jesse Dudley; Jan Loesch; Katie Lohmann; Justin Lone; Brian & Amy Lovato; Jody Lucey

June 26 – Lynn Luchtenburg; Juliana Lutz; Christine Lutze; Sharon & William Lyon and Katelyn; Kathleen Maas; Laura Madsen

July 3 – Karen Malonis & Ned Dikmen and Neil Dikmen-Malonis; Bogdan Manolescu; Amanda & Michael Marijanovic, Maxwell and Miles

July 10 – Alina Marinca; Bernice Marten; Nancy Marten & Kyle Lemke; Jacklyn Martin; Ruth Martin; Jen Masengarb; John & Judy Mason

July 17 – Dan Matzat; Craig & Emily Mawdsley; Sara & Brian McCarthy; Ryan McEwen; Sandra McDowell

July 24 – Rory McNeill; Katie Medick; John Menet & Beverly White and Ted; Ruth Metsch; Jim Mews; Jane Meyer

July 31 – Paul Meynen; Marion Michel; Sam Miller; Micah & Rachel Miner, Natalya and Lydia; Deb Mitrenga; JoAnne Rioli Moeller, Leslie Moeller, Paul Moeller

August 7 – Karol Moller; Patricia Moore; Joel & Brooke Moore and Ava; Nathan & Alice Moore; Gavin & Susan Morgan

August 14 – Nanette & David Mortell, Madeline and Samuel; Howard & Diane Mosely, Trey and Michael; Madelyn Muecke

August 21 – Sara & Joe Myatt and Jack; Lucille Nedved; Clara Nelson; Fiefie Nicchia; Bill Nigh; Cathlyn Nigh and Will

August 28 – Pat Noble; John Nuechterlein; Dcs. Brenna Nunes, Naomi and Malachi; Mary Occhipinti and Anthony

Official Acts

New Born:

02.07.11 Katelyn Margaret Lyon
04.17.11 Cameron Rebecca Govorchin

Baptism:

05.01.11 Cameron Rebecca Govorchin
05.15.11 Katelyn Margaret Lyon

Wedding:

01.22.11 Jean Jodar & Bruce Chancellor

New Members:

05.15.11 Ed Beavers
Bill Blair & Pam Nosse
Jake & Laura Govorchin
Pastor Tom & Johanna Johnson
Natalie, Daniel & Joseph
Tom & Gretchen Randall
Churck Snyder
Erica Soukup

Transfers:

02.04 Rebecca Brauer Mitchell to
Gloria Dei Lutheran Church,
Downers Grove, IL

Death:

04.02.11 Judie Bastin



Our Church Family

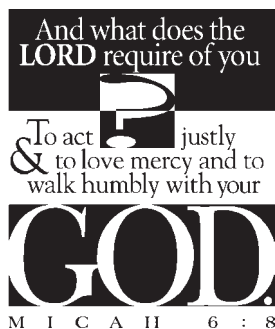


Thank you for Caring & Sharing

Our Lenten Caring and Sharing focused on four ministries, The Voice of Hope, The Voice of Care, the FSP Foot Clinic and the FSP Community Meals Ministry. Thanks to your generous support, a total of \$3,749 was raised and was designated as follows:

Voice of Hope	\$ 505
Voice of Care	\$ 480
FSP Foot Clinic	\$ 660
FSP Community Meals Ministry	\$2,104

Thank you, again, for your support of these important ministries.



First Saint Paul's Cemetery

A crew of volunteers will rebuild Wunder's 100+ year-old stone wall along Irving Park Road from Monday through Saturday, July 25 to July 30th. Each year we dedicate a week to rebuilding the stone wall with the goal of completing the job by 2015. Besides Christian fellowship and a free lunch, workers get the satisfaction of a job well done! And every time one drives past Irving Park Road, each contributor will feel a sense of pride in the wall. We are thankful to people who take a vacation day or two to help work on this project or make a contribution to purchase stone. To find out more information about this project, please call John Chaveriat, 312.263.5980, or Valerie Stodden, 773.525.4038. Make your summer count by taking a working vacation day at Wunder's!

From the Trustees:

There are a number of volunteer opportunities for friends of First St. Paul's, particularly for the individual who is a bit handy and for those of us who like to organize:

- 1) The iron fence in front of the church could use a new paint job. The old paint and rust has to be brushed off and new paint applied.
- 2) The church library could use organizing and a good cleaning out. This really is an excellent resource that is currently not being utilized.
- 3) Our Christmas and other seasonal decorations are stored in various locations throughout the building and need to be consolidated.

Please contact the church office for direction and guidance on these activities. Your efforts and contributions are greatly appreciated.

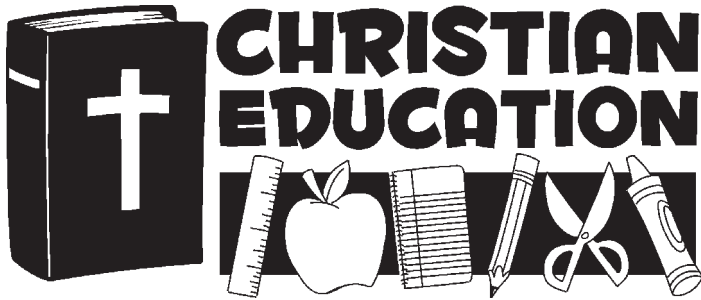
Richard Allen, Trustee



Church Picnic on July 31 at 12 Noon on the patio and in Fellowship Hall. We're putting together a group to plan this fun time.

- **Food**—Fried chicken (provided) and lots of sides (everybody brings one). Contact Amy Hendricksen.
- **Playtime for children**—We need some help here! Volunteers?
- **Softball at Franklin Park at 1PM**—Teams are forming. Contact John Menet.





SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL will begin on June 5th and run through August 28th (no classes on July 3rd). Our theme this summer is **"Big Jungle Adventure: A Faith Journey with Jesus."** Our mission outreach and offerings will be supporting the Lutheran Malaria Initiative. We are so excited to be able to offer religious instruction for our children this summer. We hope you will join us for this awesome Jungle Adventure!

Kickoff for **fall Sunday School** will be **September 11th**. Mark your calendars as it is sure to be a fun filled day you won't want to miss!

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY The group meets for lunch (bring your own sack lunch) at 12:15 PM each Wednesday followed by a study led by Pastor Johnson. Currently, the group is studying the book of John. All are welcome to attend.

DO YOU LOVE YOUR BROTHER AND SISTER? We certainly hope so! Join Near North Singles for a new bible study on 1 John discussing Christian love and fellowship in our daily walk of faith. The First Epistle of John discusses growing in love for each other as fellow brothers and sisters, amidst many different 'teachings' that still exist today. Join us on June 3 and June 17. We will meet at 7 PM in the Lounge followed by dinner and drinks in the neighborhood!

Thy word have
I hid in mine heart,
sin that I might not
against thee.

Psalm 119:11

SIZZLING BIBLE CLASS BEGINNING IN JUNE!

Can you think of a better way to spend the dog days of summer without air conditioning at First Saint Paul's than a study on hell? Have you ever wondered what the heck the Bible *really* has to say about hell? Do you have any burning questions like "Is hell a real place?" or "Should we Christians talk about hell?" Rather than something we should avoid, a study of hell should be comforting and a message of Christ's triumph.

The class will be offered at two different times ... Wednesdays, beginning June 22nd at 8 PM and Sundays, beginning June 26th at 10:45 AM. Both sessions will run for 6 weeks.

Invite your friends. It should be one heck of a study.





On Sunday, May 8th, First Saint Paul's hosted a farewell reception for Pastor Paul & Karren Krause, who served FSP so faithfully for over 2 years during our pastoral vacancy.



**Come one,
Come all!**

Friday Night Fellowship

June 24 at 6 PM

Join us on the patio for a barbeque (turkey hot dogs, hamburgers, and veggie burgers). Bring a dish to pass—salads and desserts most welcome. Bible study will follow dinner. Children's activities will be provided. Everyone is welcome! Sign up on the bulletin board or send your reservation to the church office.

We could use a grill master at about 5:30PM. Any volunteers? Contact Amy Hendricksen or Cindy Goers.



The Messenger

Financial Report

	Actual 2011	Our Budget 2011
<i>Operating Account: Funds Available 01/01/11:</i>	72,292	
<i>How much we raised:</i>		
Worship contributions	91,995	96,667
Facility rental income	2,120	1,667
Investment Income	210	667
	<u>94,325</u>	<u>99,000</u>
<i>How much we Spent:</i>		
Administrative and Stewardship	4,236	4,667
Communications and Outreach	2,222	1,800
Education and Fellowship	412	1,483
Facility Expenses	18,345	21,333
Synodical Commitment	2,250	1,333
Music and Worship	1,037	2,375
Office Expenses	3,398	3,104
Personnel and Employee Benefits	49,861	71,942
Social Ministry	-	100
	<u>81,762</u>	<u>108,137</u>
<i>Operating Account: Funds Available 04/30/11:</i>	84,855	
<i>Designed Funds Balances 04/30/11:</i>		
Memorials - unallocated	7,000	
Altar Guild Fund	2,641	
Angel Restoration Fund	1,355	
Christian Education Fund	6,090	
Christmas Concert Fund	8,792	
Community Meals	15,848	
Creche Fund	2,110	
Foot Clinic	813	
Mission 2009	1,936	
Installation Fund	825	
Liturgical Arts Fund	324	
Lutheran Service Book	(231)	
Music Program Fund / Special Music	14,973	
Preserving God's House Capital Fund	47,619	
Townhouse Repair Fund	4,150	
Townhouse Sale Proceeds, net current expenses	(41,399)	
VBS Fund	537	
Sunday School & VBS Fund	2,317	
Youth Group Fund	1,098	
Other Restricted Funds	801	
	<u>162,452</u>	
<i>Total Funds 04/30/11:</i>	162,452	



Financial Report, continued

Properties less mortgage:

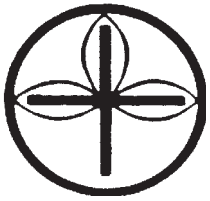
Land and Buildings - Church Property (Cost)	450,000
Land and Buildings - Parsonage (Cost)	656,600
Mortgage Payable - Church Extension Fund	<u>(305,869)</u>

Total Net Assets 04/30/11: **963,184**

Other Contributions Received:

Chicago Uptown Ministry	-
Voice of Care	480
Voice of Hope Prison Ministry	505
Foot Clinic	665
Community Meals	5,307
Lutheran Child & Family Services	130
Lutheran Church Charities	286
Lutheran World Relief	1,636
Lutheran Service Book	3,690
Music Fund	2,685
Pastor Installation	825
Preserving God's House Fund	800
Sunday School & Vacation Bible School	496
Wunders Cemetery	<u>539</u>

Total Other Contributions 04/30/11: **18,044**



**FIRST SAINT PAUL'S
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
1301 N LASALLE CHICAGO IL 60610**

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P A I D

**CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
PERMIT No. 5887**

The Messenger

New Members Class



**Become
Part of
Our
Church
Family**

Please join us for an introduction to First Saint Paul's on Wednesday evenings this summer. We will explore together what it means to be a Christian in our post-Christian world and how we at First Saint Paul's can partner together in what God is doing in Chicago. If you are seeking a church home, want to learn more about the Lutheran tradition, or are already a member and want to revisit the basics of the Christian faith, you are most welcome. Classes will begin on Wednesday June 22nd at 7:00 PM and will continue on every Wednesday through July 27th. Upon completion of the class, those who have attended are welcome to become members of First Saint Paul's Church on Sunday, July 31st. Please indicate your interest in the class by either filling out the "Rite of Fellowship" insert or by contacting Pastor Johnson.