

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

8:30 am

August 16, 2026



God's Kingdom Is Inclusive

AS WE GATHER

There are no outsiders in this place. Whether Jew or Gentile, lifelong worshiper or newcomer, young or old, rich or poor—no matter who you are or where you have come from—the promises of God are for you! As you gather in this place, God offers His grace to you through His living and active Word. Through the shed blood of Jesus, His Son, our gracious Father includes you in His everlasting kingdom. This **inclusive kingdom** is His Church, the family He has claimed as His own, the people whom He has saved, delivered, and called to Himself in Christ. So don't stand on the outside looking in!

The King invites you! Come to the feast!

We were all once foreigners, but now we breathe in the freedom of God's gracious rule, His love and mercy for Jesus' sake.

WELCOME — Pastor Christopher Fairbairn

RINGING OF THE BELL

901 Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty



1 O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty; Zi - on, let me
 2 Gra - cious God, I come be - fore Thee; Come Thou al - so
 3 Here Thy praise is glad - ly chant - ed; Here Thy seed is
 4 Thou my faith in - crease and quick - en; Let me keep Thy



en - ter there, Where my soul in joy - ful du - ty
 un - to me. Where we find Thee and a - dore Thee,
 du - ly sown. Let my soul, where it is plant - ed,
 gift di - vine, How - so - e'er temp - ta - tions thick - en;



Waits for Him who an - swers prayer. Oh, how bless - ed
 There a heav'n on earth must be. To my heart, O
 Bring forth pre - cious sheaves a - lone, So that all I
 May Thy Word still o'er me shine As my guid - ing



is this place, Filled with sol - ace, light, and grace!
 en - ter Thou; Let it be Thy tem - ple now!
 hear may be Fruit - ful un - to life in me.
 star through life, As my com - fort in all strife.

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Thus says the Lord: "Keep justice, and do righteousness,

People: for soon My salvation will come, and My deliverance be revealed."

Pastor: The deliverance of the Lord comes to us today as we gather in this house of prayer, united as one with all people who trust in the name of Jesus. Let us search our hearts and minds, bowing before our gracious Father and confessing our sins to Him.

(We take a moment of silence for prayer and meditation upon the Word of God.)

Pastor: Delivering Lord, You invite all people into Your holy house of prayer.

People: We confess that we have not kept justice, choosing to go our own way instead of following Your direction. We admit that we have not lived righteously, breaking Your commands by what we think, say, and do.

Pastor: Saving Lord, You invite all people to know Your mercy.

People: At the cross of our Savior, Jesus Christ, You defeated our enemies of sin and death. Help us to live in this victory, trusting in Your promises, and gathering with all Your people to praise Your name forever. Amen.

Pastor: Deliverance has come to you! Salvation is yours! To both Jews and Gentiles, to those of every nation under heaven, the Good News of Jesus has been given! God has heard your prayer for mercy and has offered you a place in His kingdom. As a called and ordained servant of the Word, and by the authority of Jesus, my King, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting Father, although we do not deserve to be heard, You invite us to call out to You in every circumstance.

People: Grant us confident faith that You hear us and peace in our hearts that Your answers will meet our deepest needs;

Pastor: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Sit

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 56:1, 6–8

(God promises to listen to the prayers of Gentiles.)

Reader: Thus says the Lord:
 "Keep justice, and do righteousness,
 for soon my salvation will come, and my righteousness be revealed.

⁶ "And the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord,
 to minister to him, to love the name of the Lord,
 and to be his servants,
 everyone who keeps the Sabbath and does not profane it,
 and holds fast my covenant—

⁷ these I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful
 in my house of prayer;

**People: their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar;
 for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples."**

Reader: ⁸ The Lord God,
 who gathers the outcasts of Israel, declares,
 "I will gather yet others to him
 besides those already gathered."

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Epistle Romans 11:1–2a, 13–15, 28–32

(God's mercy extends to all people.)

I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! For I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin.² God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

¹³ Now I am speaking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch then as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I magnify my ministry ¹⁴ in order somehow to make my fellow Jews jealous, and thus save some of them. ¹⁵ For if their rejection means the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance mean but life from the dead?

²⁸ As regards the gospel, they are enemies for your sake. But as regards election, they are beloved for the sake of their forefathers. ²⁹ For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰ For just as you were at one time disobedient to God but now have received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹ so they too have now been disobedient in order that by the mercy shown to you they also may now receive mercy. ³² For God has consigned all to disobedience, that he may have mercy on all.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Stand

Holy Gospel

Matthew 15:21–28

(A Canaanite woman begs Jesus for help and is granted her request.)

Reader: ²¹ Then Jesus left Galilee and went north to the region of Tyre and Sidon.²² A Gentile woman who lived there came to him, pleading,

People: "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David! For my daughter is possessed by a demon that torments her severely."

Reader: ²³ But Jesus gave her no reply, not even a word. Then his disciples urged him to send her away. "Tell her to go away," they said. "She is bothering us with all her begging."

²⁴ Then Jesus said to the woman, "I was sent only to help God's lost sheep—the people of Israel."

²⁵ But she came and worshiped him, pleading again,

People: "Lord, help me!"

Reader: ²⁶ Jesus responded, "It isn't right to take food from the children and throw it to the dogs."

People: ²⁷ She replied, "That's true, Lord, but even dogs are allowed to eat the scraps that fall beneath their masters' table."

Reader: ²⁸ "Dear woman," Jesus said to her, "your faith is great. Your request is granted." And her daughter was instantly healed.

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

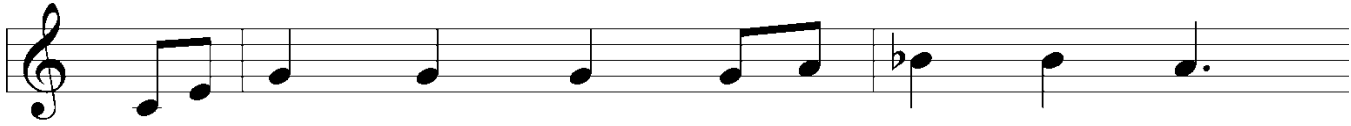
People: Praise to You, O Christ



THE APOSTLES CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

653 In Christ There Is No East or West



1 In Christ there is no east or west,
 2 With God there is no tribe or race;
 3 So, broth - ers, sis - ters, praise His name
 4 Join hands, dis - ci - ples of the faith,



In Him no south or north, But one great fel - low -
 In Him we all are one. He loves us as His
 Who died to set us free From sin, di - vi - sion,
 What - e'er your race may be; Who serves my Fa - ther



ship of love Through - out the whole wide earth.
 chil - dren through Our faith in His dear Son.
 hate, and shame, From spite and en - mi - ty!
 as His child Is sure - ly kin to me.

Sermon – Pastor Christopher Fairbairn

What do you do when Jesus places you "on hold" in your hour of need?

Does God's initial silence make you give up and walk away?



Matthew 15:21-28
Canaanite Woman's Faith

God's Answer & Deliverance always happens!

Keep asking and trusting as you wait upon the Lord.

For the Lord is GOOD AND HIS MERCY ENDURES FOREVER. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Pastor: Let us pray for ourselves, the Church around the world, and all people in their various stations and conditions. For the Church, calling sinners to repentance and proclaiming the Gospel among people of every tribe and tongue, that clergy and lay leaders be faithful in their calling and protected under persecution, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Your crumbs, O Lord, we merit not, Yet Bread of Life to us You send.

Pastor: For the nations of the world, ordering society for peace and prosperity, that their leaders be just and compassionate, and that their citizens work together—harvesting and milling, teaching and learning, producing and providing, caring and conserving—to give glory to our gracious God and dignity to one another, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Your crumbs, O Lord, we merit not, Yet Bread of Life to us You send.

Pastor: For the downtrodden and oppressed, the lonely and forgotten, the sick and dying, and for those near and dear to us, that God would hear their prayers, surround them with circles of skilled and understanding people, and answer their deepest needs according to His loving plans, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Your crumbs, O Lord, we merit not, Yet Bread of Life to us You send.

Pastor: For ourselves—young and old, rich and poor, singles, couples, and families—as we gather for worship and care for one another in our spiritual, emotional, and physical needs, that the Word of God grow richly among us to the praise of God's holy name, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Your crumbs, O Lord, we merit not, Yet Bread of Life to us You send.

Pastor: Into Your hands, heavenly Father, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting that in Your mercy You will answer with blessings none of us deserves for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

OFFERING OF OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

If you brought your offering today, you are welcome to leave it in the offering box you will find at the back of the church. **Thank you.**

We invite our guests and members to fill out our Friendship Card during worship, which is found on the back of the pew. Please leave your card at the end of the pew near the center aisle as you leave.

Stand

Offertory



♪ Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
 new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
 way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
 from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
 tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

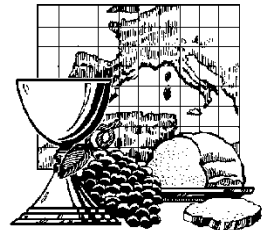
Please see our communion policy stated on the inside front cover.

THE DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION WINE: For those who may not be able to take regular wine, we offer

non-alcoholic wine, which is the light colored wine in the center of the communion tray.

++ We offer **Gluten-free** wafers upon request. ++



770 What a Friend We Have in Jesus



1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, All our sins and griefs to bear!
 2 Have we tri - als and temp-ta-tions? Is there trou-ble an - y-where?
 3 Are we weak and heav - y lad - en, Cum - bered with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry Ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!
 We should nev - er be dis-cour-aged— Take it to the Lord in prayer.
 Pre - cious Sav-ior, still our ref - uge— Take it to the Lord in prayer.



Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; Oh, what need-less pain we bear—
 Can we find a friend so faith - ful Who will all our sor-rows share?
 Do thy friends de-spise, for-sake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer.

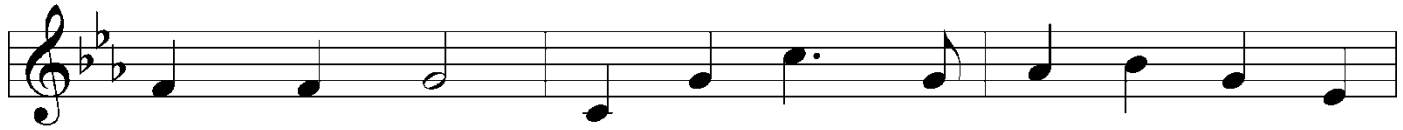


All be - cause we do not car - ry Ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!
 Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak-ness— Take it to the Lord in prayer.
 In His arms He'll take and shield thee; Thou wilt find a sol-ace there.

828 We Are Called to Stand Together



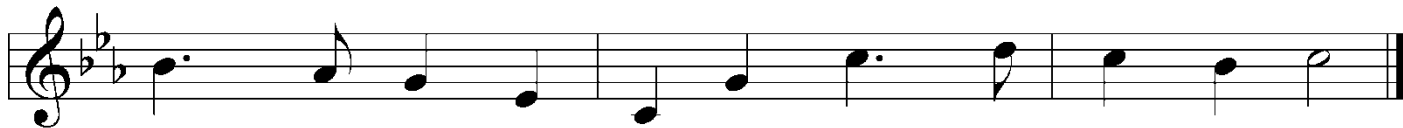
1 We are called to stand to- geth - er With the saints of
 2 Those whom Je - sus called a - pos - tles Jour - neyed with Him
 3 Through the in - ter - ven - ing a - ges Round the world the
 4 Now in man - y tongues and cul - tures Songs of cel - e -
 5 To each com - ing gen - er - a - tion Tell the truth, per -



a - ges past, With the pa - tri - archs and proph - ets
 side by side, Heard His teach - ing, felt His pow - er,
 Gos - pel spread: Faith - ful her - alds took the mes - sage,
 bra - tion ring; Mil - lions who con - fess our Sav - ior
 suade, ex - plain, Till the time when time is end - ed,



In the faith they once held fast; Prom - is - es and
 Saw the way He lived and died; Then the news of
 Guid - ed where the Spir - it led; So the bod - y
 Hon - or Him as Lord and King And, for cour - age,
 Till the Sav - ior comes a - gain— Till the saints are



hopes they trea - sured Now we find ful - filled at last!
 res - ur - rec - tion They de - liv - ered far and wide.
 grew in stat - ure, Serv - ing Christ, the liv - ing head.
 grace and guid - ance Ev - 'ry day their prayers they bring.
 all u - nit - ed Un - der Christ's e - ter - nal reign!

There Is a Redeemer

MELODY GREEN



Voice

1. There is a Re - deem - er, Je - sus, God's own
 2. Je - sus, my Re - deem - er, Name a - bove all
 3. When I stand in Glo - ry, I will see His

4
 Son: Pre - cious Lamb of God Mes - si - ah,
 names, Pre - cious Lamb of God, Mes - si - ah,
 face, There I'll serve my King for - ev - er

7
 Ho - ly One. Thank You, oh, my Fa - ther, for
 Hope for sin - ners slain.
 In that Ho - ly place.

11
 giv - ing us Your Son, and leav - ing Your Spir - it 'til the

15
 work on earth is done.

779 Come, My Soul, with Every Care



- 1 Come, my soul, with ev - 'ry care, Je - sus loves to an - swer prayer;
 2 Thou art com - ing to a King, Large pe - ti - tions with thee bring;
 3 With my bur - den I be - gin: Lord, re - move this load of sin;
 4 Lord, Thy rest to me im - part, Take pos - ses - sion of my heart;



He Him - self has bid thee pray, There - fore will not turn a - way.
 For His grace and pow'r are such None can ev - er ask too much.
 Let Thy blood, for sin - ners spilt, Set my con - science free from guilt.
 There Thy blood-bought right main - tain And with - out a ri - val reign.

God Loved the World So That He Gave



- 1 God loved the world so that He gave His on - ly
 2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, Who was made
 3 God would not have the sin - ner die; His Son with
 4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son For - gives all



Son the lost to save, That all who would in
 flesh and suf - fered death; All then who trust in
 sav - ing grace is nigh; His Spir - it in the
 sins which you have done; And, jus - ti - fied by



Him be - lieve Should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.
 Him a - lone Are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.
 Word de - clares How we in Christ are heav - en's heirs.
 Je - sus' blood, Your Bap - tism grants the high - est good.

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us more than crumbs from Your Table; we have received a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood.

People: **Keep us firm in the true faith, and strengthen us to share with friends and strangers Your gracious invitation, that we may together celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end;**

Pastor: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord richly bless you each day and keep You close to Himself; the Lord shine the light of His grace on you daily; the Lord smile on You, bestowing strength and joy and His peace.

People: **For Jesus' sake, His favor rests upon us. Amen.**

THE INVITATIONS

830 Spread the Reign of God the Lord



2 Tell how God the Fa - ther's will Made the world, up - holds it still,
 3 Tell of our Re-deem - er's grace, Who, to save our hu - man race
 4 Tell of God the Spir - it giv'n Now to guide us on to heav'n,



How His own dear Son He gave Us from sin and death to save.
 And to pay re - bel-lion's price, Gave Him - self as sac - ri - fice.
 Strong and ho - ly, just and true, Work - ing both to will and do.



Need some PRAYER? Anyone who desires special private prayer with a pastor or a Stephen Minister may do so by coming forward after service to one of the front pews.

Our Vision — a place to come for comfort, support, answers, opportunities to serve, and to strengthen a salvation relationship with Jesus



WHERE WE SERVE

Preacher/Officiant
Music Director
Family Life
Elder

Pastor Christopher Fairbairn
Paul Ventimiglia
Jeanette Koch
John Hasse

Ushers

John Nordbeck
Barry Helmick
Katie Helmick
Carole Crete
Paul Kemp

Greeter

Kemnitz Family

Counters

Katie Grab
Carole Crete

Reader

Jan Faerber

Welcome Center

Sue Poole

Coffee Hour

Board of Youth and Family Education

Tech Team

Patrick Baker

Acolyte

Thomas Kutz

Altar Society

Karen Frusti
Christine Lewis

Remember Our Homebound

Margaret Parkinson
735 Randolph Unit 121
Northville, MI 48167

Bible Study and Small Group Opportunities

SUNDAYS: Join us for Bible study and fellowship @ 9:45am in the church Parish Hall.

SATURDAYS: Men's Bible Study – Every 1st and 3rd Saturday @ 9:00am – Parish Hall

Altar Flowers

In loving memory of my big brother, Kenneth Garrett in honor of his August 19th birthday
from his little sister Carole Crete.

Please arrange to pick up your flowers after the 11 am service.

Attendance Last week: 8.9.2026– Attendance – 8:30am – 106 + 11:00am 62– = 168

Communion - 87

Received week of 8.9.2026 for **Church** (Envelopes + loose plate)- **\$6,640** total includes online giving
School - \$0

16	AUG, SUN	● 8:30 – 9:30am	Worship w/ Communion
		● 9:45 – 10:45am	Sunday School & Youth Bible Study
		● 11am – 12pm	Worship w/ Communion
		● 7 – 9pm	Adult pick up basketball - check notes for availability school gym
18	AUG, TUE	● 9 – 10am	Yolanda M. - Parish Hall
19	AUG, WED	● 5 – 9pm	Family of God Mission Dinner Kitchen 2-5pm 7354 Whittaker St
20	AUG, THU	● 4:30 – 5:30pm	Choir Practice
		● 5:45 – 7pm	Bell Choir Rehearsal - church
21	AUG, FRI	● All day	Jane Dough - School Kitchen
		● 7 – 9pm	AA Mtg. church parish hall
		● 9 – 11:30pm	Yuta Basketball Rental gym



Rally Day is Sept. 13, 2026. It's also Grandparents Day. Please plan to celebrate this special day at an outdoor service. There will be one service at 10:30 am. The location is Cass Benton Park in Northville. The address is 18005 Northville Road, Northville. You may enter Cass Benton Park from either Hines Drive or Northville Road. The park is located between 6 and 7 mile. There is a nice pavilion, rest rooms, play ground and parking. There is no fee to enter the park. There will be a potluck lunch following the service. Watch for a sign up Genius to volunteer a dish. We look forward to praising our Lord among the trees, flowers, birds and all the natural beauty.



**THANK YOU TO OUR
TABLE SPONSORS!**

FAMILY LIFE RADIO
ALLIANCE CATHOLIC CREDIT UNION
HILL CITY CHURCH
FARMINGTON HILLS CHURCH OF GOD
OUR LADY OF SORROWS CATHOLIC CHURCH
NOVI RIGHT TO LIFE
ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH
CNS HEALTHCARE
ESSENTIAL FAMILY CHIROPRACTOR
IMPACT CHURCH
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS - COUNCIL 4401
MICHIGAN NURSES FOR LIFE/LIFESPAN
REACHOUT WORLD
WALKING WITH MOMS IN NEED



**Thank You, St. Paul
Lutheran Church
for Supporting the**



Baby Bottle Drive!

Thanks to your generous hearts, **\$1,577 was raised in the Baby Bottle Drive** to support Another Way Pregnancy Center. Your gifts help extend Christ's love to women and families facing unplanned pregnancies, offering hope, healing, and life-affirming care.

**"Let all that you do be done in love."
— 1 Corinthians 16:14**

Thank you for being a part of this life-affirming mission!

🍷 CIDER, DONUTS & FELLOWSHIP 🍷

Young Adults & Young Families Fall Outing

We're bringing together our post-college young adults, young couples, and families with kids of all ages for a fall day at the orchard!

To help us lock in the best date and scale the event (hayrides, private space, or casual meetup), we need a fast headcount.

- **Who:** Post-college grads up through parents with kids!
- **When:** Late September – October (Help us pick the date)
- **Deadline:** Sunday, August 16

📱 **Scan the QR code below to submit your initial RSVP!**

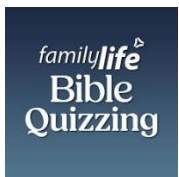


Maui Vacation in your Plans?



As a way of raising funds for our St. Paul short-term mission trips, a generous family in our congregation is offering the use of their condominium at the beautiful Sands of Kahana Resort in Maui, Hawaii during the week of December 4 - December 11, 2026. More information about the resort at <https://sandsofkahanaresort.com/>. The unit (Orchid Room) is a two bedroom / two bath, with kitchen and with a pull-out couch, comfortably sleeps up to six people. The unit will be awarded to the highest bidder (minimum bid is \$500) in a blind auction with the winning bidder notified on October 1st. Auction proceeds will be deposited to the St. Paul Short-Term mission fund to support future SPL MOST mission trip goers.

Please submit a short statement of your interest along with your bid to Jeff Henning (Jhenning90@comcast.net) by September 30, 2026. If you should have any questions or want more information, please reach out to Jeff Henning or Chris Burgess. Chris and Ann Burgess took advantage of this opportunity last year and would be happy to describe their wonderful experience to interested bidders!



Wild Card Bible Quizzing Tournament This FREE Bible Quizzing tournament will be hosted at **St. Paul Church**. There is **no age limit**. Join us **Saturday, September 12, 2026 @ 12PM-5PM!** The material will be 8 random chapters from the Gospel of John (randomly selected 1 week before the tournament). No prior knowledge of the material is required. All ages welcome on teams of 3 people each. For info or to

register, visit biblequizzing.azurewebsites.net/Tournaments or talk to Jake Fairbairn <jakecfairbairn@gmail.com>, (248) 231-9684.

**St. Paul Bible Quizzing - Kids & Adult Volunteers Needed!**

Bible Quizzing is a great way to learn Scripture with friends and with the motivation of competition. This year we'll be going over the Gospel of John, which is a great place to get started in Scripture! Kids in 2nd-12th grade are welcome to join. Membership at St. Paul is not required. All experience levels welcome (no prior Bible knowledge required!).

Join us for a 20 minute Bible Quizzing demo with short games, activities, and Q&A in the school building on August 16 and August 23.

We'll run it after both services, so make it to whichever one works best for you. No commitment required. Check out what Bible Quizzing is all about!

Interested in quizzing or volunteering? Talk to Jake Fairbairn <jakecfairbairn@gmail.com>, (248) 231-9684>.

