



Journeys

Journeys is a monthly publication of St. Paul Lutheran Church

Is The Epistle of James the Least “Lutheran” Book of the Bible?

Back in 1524 the famous Dutch humanist Erasmus Desiderius published his treatise “on the Freedom of the Will”, which argued that humans had a God-given ability to choose good over evil. Erasmus had been asked by the Pope to write a refutation of ideas that Martin Luther and other Reformers had proposed about predestination. In 1525 Luther responded with “On the Bondage of the Will”, one of his most famous essays, that laid out a framework of the captivity of the human will to forces of evil.

Erasmus ultimately wanted reconciliation between the reformers and the romanists, and he sought to present a nuanced view of God’s grace, in which human beings played a pivotal role, while Luther was staunch in his belief that humans could do nothing to work with an omnipotent God in the plan of salvation, except to trust in God’s mercy of course.

In this context the letter of James was a particularly difficult epistle for Luther and his position. He at one point commented that he was unsure how this particular book even made it into the New Testament (he was also not fond of Revelation either). James seems to be a counterpoint to the Apostle Paul’s “saved by grace alone through faith”. In his letter James argues that

one is indeed not saved by faith alone, but also by the works of love and compassion that are done, as well as showing restraint and turning from evil temptations and desires

James starts out his letter writing to the “twelve tribes of the dispersion”, which tells us this is clearly a Jewish audience he is speaking to. He encourages his readers/listeners to ask God for wisdom and not to doubt. James says the lowly shall boast only in that God has raised them up, and the rich shall boast only that God has humbled them, and he says blessed are those who endure temptation, which is not from God but

comes from our own desires.

James is particularly concerned with how we interact with others saying that we should be slow to anger, slow to speak,

but quick to listen (something we might all take to heart in these days). He says to be open and welcoming to God’s Word, but don’t just hear it, we need to actually do what it says, and in that action we will be blessed. *“26 If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. 27 Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.”*



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Our Mission Statement

Striving to mirror Christ in word and action by reaching out to serve others!

Misión de la Iglesia Esforzándonos para reflejar a Cristo en palabra y acción ¡Para alcanzar y servir a la comunidad



In chapter 2 James points out the hypocrisy of the Christians who show favoritism to the rich and look down on the poor. These distinctions and judgments come from an evil place. God has chosen the poor to be honored with the kingdom of heaven, and James says it is the rich who oppress us, yet we honor them! We are to judge only by the law of liberty of Christ, which is to show mercy, and not partiality between people. James claims that mercy is greater than judgment. The law of liberty leads us to do good for all people, especially those with the most needs. *"14 What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? 15 If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, 16 and one of you says to them, 'Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill', and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? 17 So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead."* And *"24 You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone."* Wow, we really don't like to hear that has Lutheran Christians!

Chapter 3 contains James' famous diatribe about the damage a tongue can do, and the hypocrisy that from the same mouth come blessings and curses. He compares the tongue to a rudder or a ship or the bridle of a horse in that it is small but it can direct the whole body. The "wisdom" from the world is one of selfish-ambition according to James, while the true wisdom of God is one that shows love to everyone and tries to live peaceably with others. Part of this is restraint in how we speak to others and about others, using our words to bring peace.

James calls us not to judge others, to leave it to God alone, and to never speak ill of others. We must resist the devil and humbly draw ourselves closer to God. And at the end of the day we must not boast about what we will do or achieve in the future but leave it up to God's plans and purposes. James warns against the dangers of riches that easily corrupt human beings, and can lead to injustices against the laborers who are poor. We must be patient, in the midst of the suffering and turmoil of the world. In suffering we are to pray. In gladness, we sing songs of praise. We are to gather the elders to pray over, and anoint with oil those who are sick. We should confess our sins to one another, and seek forgiveness and it will be given to us. We are supposed to admonish any who wander from the truth to come back to God.

The call of many New Testament passages for us to do better, to do good in the world, is part of what led Erasmus to the position that we have some role in salvation, and the epistle of James is a good example. Luther on the other hand saw that all have sinned and fallen short, and therefore we cannot reach God of our own accord. Is there a way to hold these two perspectives together? Not that we can achieve ultimate salvation through our good works, but that we can still be a part of God's plan of salvation for the world in doing good for others. One might argue that in Christ we have a measure of free will through the new law of liberty in our actions to others as Christians.

When speaking of works righteousness Luther often had in mind the ritualistic practices such as lighting candles, praying to the saints, special pilgrimages, and things of that nature. He was not in any way opposed to helping “the orphan, the widow, and the stranger” as the Bible commands over and over again. He definitely felt the Church of his day had leaned into the ritualistic works and had not focused enough on good works for the poor. He felt that the overemphasis on works righteousness had actually led many to this outwardly pietistic practice, which had a lot in common with the Pharisees of Jesus day.

Later in life, Luther came to appreciate the letter of James much more. He could see that if there was no good fruit being produced in the life of a Christian, they could not claim then to have the faith of Jesus in them. Today I think it is helpful to combine these two views of Erasmus and Luther, to see that God has reached out to us in grace and mercy, not because of anything we have done, but because of his great love for us, AND we are called to respond with acts of love and mercy in the world as a part of God’s plans and purpose for salvation. At the end of the day it is

not an either/or but a both/and. And I think that James is a good counterbalance for us as Lutherans, to not become one-sided in our faith or view of Scripture. Perhaps we can say with Luther that the principalities and powers of this world have bound our will so that we constantly lean toward sinful ways, and we might say after reading James (and Erasmus) that because of the faith of Jesus Christ our free will has been revived by God if only in a limited capacity so that we might be able to choose somewhat more effectively between good and evil.

Many blessings to you as we begin the Lenten season once again this February with Ash Wednesday, remembering we are dust and we shall return to dust, AND we are called to action for the sake of others with all humility as we grow in the grace of God through Jesus Christ. With trust in God’s grace and forgiveness, may we daily choose good over evil, mercy over judgment, and love and grace over selfish ambition, as the Epistle of James so poignantly reminds us. Because faith without works, is dead. Amen!

- Pastor Nathaniel Allen



COUNCIL CORNER



2026 Congregational Council:

President:
Monica Farias

V. President
Derek Helwig

Secretary:
Maureen Burton

Financial Officer:
TBA

Worship, Stewardship & Evangelism Minister:
Debby Otto

Education, Family & Fellowship Minister:
Lindsay Heddon

Property Minister:
Chris Heddon

Lay Minister:
Renee Christensen

Community Minister:
Christian Bakken

Pastor Nate Allen

Council Corner

Greetings St Paul- looking at my calendar, I cannot believe it is February, and preparations for Lent/Easter have already begun!

Council met in January and each ministry team brought ideas and goals for the year.

Thanks to all who helped to pack up the kitchen to prepare for the refresh. We are excited to see the end result. As a reminder, underwriting opportunities are available to help! Anything large or small is welcomed- cabinet hardware, new freezer, drawer organizer inserts, a countertop? See Kathleen or Nick Preston for more information.

Our community ministry is finding opportunities to support local groups, in addition to the support we provide to our long-term community organizations such as Pathways of Hope. This month we will be working with Foster Love, an organization in Brea that provides a variety of support and services for children in foster care.

You can read more about them on their website: fosterlove.com

The Health/Steven Ministries reminds us that durable medical equipment is available for loan if there is a need. An inventory is in the works, and we will a list of available equipment. Stephen Ministry is welcoming new leadership opportunities. Please see George Montgomery or Sarah Tees if interested. The team also has some ideas to support Stephen Ministry and expand service to the community.

Work continues on our Mission Development Pastor. Currently the Mission Site Profile (job description) is in the hands of the Pacifica Synod for review and approval, and council is finalizing the formation of the call committee.

Thank you for all that you do to enhance, support and strengthen our ministries!

Peace to you!

Monica Farias
Council President

Thanks to all for PULLING together to support Ronald McDonald House Charities in 2026 for our January Outreach Challenge. The jar in the narthex is starting to fill up!

For the month of February, let's show our love as we continue our outreach efforts with Foster Love.

Foster Love is a local organization in Brea that helps children in foster care and the foster community at large. They offer diverse services for foster youth through tangible resources, educational scholarships, and supplemental support to foster agencies and

foster parents. They partner with thousands of volunteers, social workers, CASA advocates, and other partners to transformer the way children experience foster care. Programs are created to provide a way for people who cannot become foster parters to still have a meaningful and effective way to help children in foster care.

(Continued on pg. 5)

Please join our February Outreach Challenge by donating games, toiletries, winter accessories such as hats, socks, gloves, and coats for all ages. Please place all donations in the narthex; alternatively, you can contribute with a monetary donation which will be used to purchase items; simply label your envelope or add a note to the memo line on your check with “Foster Love.”

Danelle Garrison, Volunteer Manager with Foster Love, informed that “all donations are distributed directly

back to our local community. We focus on keeping the impact local, so items will be provided to our agency partners in Southern California and then given to youth in Foster Care.”

We may continue our partnership with them later this year in support of “Birthday Palooza” and “Disney Days 2026” - details to follow in the coming months. More information about this organization can be found at <https://fosterlove.com>



Stewardship Update

Congregational giving in December was \$1,250 higher than December of last year. Other Income was \$275 lower than last year. Expenses in December were \$1,397 higher than last year due the reclassification of musician expenses for Christmas services offset by the cycling of intern expenses that were incurred from October 2024 thru September 2025.

Year-to-Date Congregational giving through December was \$18,348 higher than last year due to general giving increases and the timing of receipts of large non-recurring gifts. Other Income was \$17,026 lower than last year due to the receipt of a Federal payroll tax refund in 2024 and a staff retirement gift from the congregation in 2024. Year-to-Date Expenses through December were \$35,291 higher than last year due to increased staffing with the intern position and increased benefits (\$23,038), increased utility expenses and reclassification of musician expenses for Christmas.



| | <u>Dec 2025</u> | <u>Dec 2024</u> | <u>Total Year 2025</u> | <u>Total Year 2024</u> |
|------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Congregation Offerings | \$ 77,430 | \$ 76,180 | \$ 455,097 | \$ 436,749 |
| Other Income | \$ 6,050 | \$ 7,924 | \$ 66,782 | \$ 80,518 |
| Expense Offsets | \$ 10,290 | \$ 8,691 | \$ 13,923 | \$ 17,213 |
| TOTAL REVENUE | \$ 93,770 | \$ 92,795 | \$ 535,802 | \$ 534,480 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | \$ 49,412 | \$ 48,015 | \$ 544,892 | \$ 509,601 |
| NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) | \$ 44,358 | \$ 44,780 | \$ (9,090) | \$ 24,879 |

Thank you for your continuing financial support of our ministry and mission.

— Tom Pankow, Treasurer



STEPHEN MINISTRY PAGE

Currently we have 7 Stephen Ministers and 4 Leaders. Currently Serving in 8 Caring Relationships.

Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. Galatians 6:2

Setting Boundaries

Shared from Core of the Heart | Daily Devotions by Johnny Chang

Scripture (KJV):

Galatians 6:5: "For every man shall bear his own burden."

Today, I had to do something that didn't feel very "Christian" at first.

I had to say no.

I had to step back.

I had to stop letting someone lean on me in a way that was slowly crushing me.

And the truth is, I love them.

I wanted to help them.

I wanted to save them.

I wanted to fix it, absorb it, carry it, just like I always do.

But then something clicked. I am not their God.

Loving someone doesn't mean becoming their **Savior**.

It doesn't mean letting them use me.

It doesn't mean taking on their chaos, carrying their responsibilities, and drowning in their problems.

That is not love. That is replacement.

And Jesus already has the **Savior** role covered.

For a long time, I confused loving people like Christ with trying to love people as Christ, and those are two very different things.

Christ died for people.

I am not called to die trying to keep someone comfortable in their dysfunction.

Christ carries the weight of the world.

I am not designed to carry the emotional weight of someone who refuses to face their own life.

Galatians 6:5 says something most people skip over:

"For every man shall bear his own burden."

Meaning:

There are things only God can carry for them.

And there are things they must carry themselves.

I can encourage.

I can support.

I can pray.

I can guide them toward Christ.

But I cannot replace Christ.

Setting a boundary today didn't mean I stopped loving them.

It meant I stopped enabling them.

It didn't come from hate.

It came from wisdom.

It didn't mean I was cold.

It meant I was finally honest.

Because here's the truth:

Sometimes the most loving thing you can do is to step away so that God can finally step in.

I realized that by always rescuing them, I was actually standing in the way of their relationship with God.

I was becoming their source instead of pointing them toward **the Source**.

And I don't want to be a crutch in someone's life.

I want to be a signpost that leads them to Jesus.

There's a difference between compassion and codependency.

There's a difference between helping and hiding someone from the consequences that bring growth.

There's a difference between love and self-sacrifice that ignores God's order.

And today, **I finally chose obedience over guilt.**

I also realized something else.

People who are used to relying on you often get uncomfortable when you finally stop.

Not because you changed, but because the system they depended on is breaking.

But I don't answer to their discomfort. I answer to God's calling.

I am called to love people toward Christ,

not replace Christ in their lives.

Saying no reveals the true posture of a person's heart and their motives.

And that boundary I set today?

It didn't come from rejection.

It came from clarity.

I wasn't created to carry everyone.

I was created to carry the gospel. And Jesus will carry the rest.

Prayer

Father, give me the courage to love people without trying to save them. Help me walk in wisdom, not guilt. Teach me to set boundaries without bitterness and to care without absorbing what is not mine to carry. I surrender the need to be needed, and I choose instead to point people to the only One who can truly save them. Thank You for reminding me that I am a servant, not a Savior. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Shared with love,
Sarah Tees

Food Distribution—Volunteer Opportunity

I would like to announce that St. Paul Church will begin offering a Food Distribution in collaboration with First Lutheran Church and their Caring Hands Food Pantry. This will take place on the second Saturday of each month from 9am to 11am beginning on February 14. Second Harvest Food Bank is providing the food with assistance from the Caring Hands Food Pantry.

The distribution will be held at First Lutheran Church in downtown Fullerton, located at 215 N. Lemon St. We will meet there at 9am to prepare for the distribution that should start at around 10am. I want to take this time

to let everyone know that this event is open to all ages and all skill levels, there is no experience necessary. Thank you to all that have already expressed interest, we are all very excited about this endeavor.

We would love to have you join in on the fun with this great opportunity to be of service to those in our community. If you plan on attending, please let me know you're coming, but even if you don't let me know, feel free to show up at First Lutheran on Saturday. You can connect with me at Church, by phone at 714 926-5553, or by email at Miked4days@gmail.com





HEALTH MINISTRY PAGE

Let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth,* whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead.

Acts of the Apostles 4.10

Microplastic

This last fall, my class investigated the presence of microplastics in the environment. Students examined what microplastics are and the various sources from which they come from. We analyzed water samples from multiple sources, including glass bottles, plastic bottles, cardboard containers, filtered water, tap water, and ocean water. Students filtered each sample, dried the filter papers, and transferred the collected material onto Petri dishes to examine under a microscope.

They found that microplastics were present in all water samples tested. Notably, even filtered water contained microplastics, indicating that some particles were able to pass through standard filtration systems. The largest amount of microplastics were found in the ocean water samples. This was a lab done by high school students in a high school lab. We do not have the most advanced technologies and probably not the best lab techniques. We were still able to collect samples that showed these microplastics across the board.

There is increasing scientific evidence documenting the accumulation of microplastics in the human body. While the short-term health effects of microplastic exposure are not yet fully understood, growing concern exists regarding their potential long-term impacts. Microplastics have been compared to other environmental dangers, such as ultraviolet radiation, which are known to cause DNA alterations. Although not all DNA changes result in harm, extensive research has demonstrated links between prolonged exposure to certain environmental factors—such as UV radiation—and increased cancer risk. Similarly, emerging evidence suggests that chronic exposure to microplastics may pose comparable health concerns.

Research continues to show rising levels of microplastics in human tissues, with water being only one of several contributing sources.

Below I have collected some common sources of microplastics in the world around us:

Sources of Microplastics

1. Food - Microplastics have been detected in a wide range of foods. Most often foods including seafood, salt, sugar, milk, honey, and tea bags and processed foods have a higher percentage of microplastics. Microplastics can enter the food chain as larger plastics degrade in the environment, or from food packaging and processing contact.

2. Water - Both bottled water and tap water have been found to contain microplastics. Although regulatory limits for microplastics in drinking water are not yet established, research confirms their presence. Environmental sources (plastics breakdown, urban runoff, wastewater) contribute microplastics to surface waters that ultimately enter drinking water systems.

3. Containers and Packaging - Everyday plastic containers, bottles, and other packaging materials are sources of microplastic shedding, especially when heated,

(Continued on page 9)

washed, or degraded over time. Even plastic products labeled “food-safe” can release microscopic particles under certain conditions, especially those identified above.

Below are some ways that we can limit some of our exposure. While we cannot cut all of our microplastics out of our life. There are some things we can do right away and also some things we can do over time to decrease our exposure to microplastics.

These steps can help reduce *immediate* or daily exposure to microplastics:

- Choose reusable, non-plastic containers such as glass, stainless steel, or ceramic for food storage and drinking.
- Avoid heating food in plastic, including microwaving plastic containers or using plastic wrap in heat.
- Use high-quality home water filters (e.g., NSF/ANSI-certified systems like reverse osmosis) to reduce microplastics in drinking water.
- Reduce single-use plastics such as bottled water, straws, and plastic utensils.
- Wash plastic containers by hand, not in the dishwasher, to limit breakdown from high heat and friction.

These steps support ongoing reduction of exposure and broader plastic pollution:

- Wear more clothing made from natural fibers (cotton, silk, linen, wool, etc). Synthetic fibers (polyester, spandex, nylon, acrylic, etc) shed microplastic nanofibers in our living spaces as well as into our water when going through the cleaning process.
- Choose minimally packaged and fresh foods instead of highly processed, plastic-wrapped products.
- Support infrastructure upgrades that improve municipal water filtration and microplastic monitoring.
- Advocate for policies that reduce plastic production and improve waste management, including bans on certain single-use plastics.
- Stay updated on research and regulations as science evolves on health effects and mitigation strategies.

- Stephanie Fisher

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**Women
of the
ELCA**

**February
2026**



WELCA Update

How can it already be February? As I write this I'm wondering how January went by so quickly...especially since it's not filled with holiday "doings". I'm reminded of how precious time is, and how important it is for me to use it wisely...not just with accomplishments that I can track, but with activities that support others — activities that are truly important and worthy of my time. Outside of the things that must be done, I'm hopeful that I can maintain a focus of prioritizing the things that positively impact others.

To that end, I'm grateful for all of the WELCA members who helped with the set up and clean up for Doug Strom's memorial and the kitchen pack up. Thank you!

February marks WELCA's return to monthly meetings, and many of our circles gathered in January. If you're not yet part of a circle, we welcome you to visit each group to help you determine which circle you'd like to join. WELCA President Diana Bock is a good first-place-to-start contact.

Here's what's on the calendar so far:
Feb 4 at 9:30 WELCA board meeting in the fellowship hall; all invited to attend.

March 1 WELCA's Thankoffering Service featuring Dr. Anne Ford who will speak about her faith journey helping those in need. Every year, Dr. Ford leads a team of people who spend 10-14 days providing medical care to people in rural areas around the world who have little or no access to medical care.

Here's the list of WELCA Circle leaders. Contact them for the latest plans on when and where to meet.

Esther: Diane Collins, 714-526-1000, di-anec@servpro-legal.com

Pam Montgomery, 714-526-6417, jjjmother@yahoo.com

Elizabeth: Joyce Wolf, 562-277-2137, joy-laine22@yahoo.com

Rahab: Greta Hobson, 714-390-5762, greta.goellrich@gmail.com

Sarah: Sheila Richards, 714-745-5043, sherichards@aol.com

Blessings,
Karen



Check the narthex mail slots for your statement of giving. If you have any questions, contact Barb Jennings.

For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, that God prepared in advance for us to do. Ephesians 2:10

IN OUR Thoughts and Prayers

**STRENGTH, HEALING, COMFORT,
MERCY, PRAISE AND
THANKSGIVING**—For the people of
every land and nation.

HEALING

Ning Amante
Dee Ermes
Natalie Reggio
Karen Legel
Ronald Likes
Shirley Strom
David & Noelle Wallace
Marge Shaw—*Mother of Todd Shaw*
Greg Richardson—*Son of Leslie
Richardson*
Clay Baxter—*Friend of Martha Huff*
Johanna—*Friend of a member*
Lauren—*Friend of Barbara Meyer*
Janet—*Mom of Renee Christensen*
Phil - *Friend of the Nygard Family*
Noelle Nygard Wallace
Kanoa
Chris Jean—*Friend of Bill Meyer*
Carol Dahl—*Friend of Annette Nygard*
Linda
Kathy & Mick Wallace
Brian Wallace—*Brother of David Wallace*
Zoe Kam—*Friend of Monica Farias*
Gary—*George Montgomery's sister's
husband*
Mike Fillmore—*Carole Reiner's friend*
Linda Nason
Carrie—*Annette Nygard's great niece*
My sons. May they find the peace of
God in their hearts. - *Requested by a
mother who cannot reach her children.*

Noelle Nygard Wallace & David
Wallace
Savannah - *David & Noelle Wallace
extended family*

Oliver - *Debby Otto's grandson*

Jim & Sandy Roberts
George Marotz
Gloria Kam—*Friend and neighbor of The
Farias Family*
Nick Mueller—*Cousin of the Stone
Family*
Maureen Burton
Esther Shearer—*Sheila Richards' aunt*
Tommy Jordan—*son of Brian Jordan*
Terry - *Cousin of David Wallace*
Sophia—*friend of Reagan Fernandez*
Bob Spurlock

STRENGTH AND HEALING

Tom Peters,
Graham Stark — *Father of Lawrence
Stark*
Dawn Beckner - *Friend of Mike Day*
Jim Siegfried - *Friend of Sue Bedell*
Bobbie Godeke—*Friend of Martha Huff*
Marjorie Legel
Todd Shaw
Kenny Sackett
Jack Sorter
Corinna Likes—*daughter of Ron & Linda
Likes*

COMFORT

Sheryl Doug - *on the death of her
husband Douglas*
Carol Welch—*on the death of her husband
Raymond*



Don't forget
our homebound
and those in
extended care
facilities.

Ning Amante
211 E. Panorama Ct.
Brea, CA 92821-3443
714-332-8318

Dee Ermes
2525 N. Brea Blvd.
#118
Fullerton, CA 92835
714-256-7050

Janeen Ostby
1261 Montevideo Ave.
Placentia, CA 92870-
3908



Ash Wednesday and Lenten Events

Bilingual Ash Wednesday Service
12 -12:45 p.m. on February 18

Bilingual Ash Wednesday Service
Wednesday, February 18 at 7 p.m.

Lenten Worship
Wednesdays, February 25, March 4,11,18, and 25.
Join us at 7 p.m. for worship in the Sanctuary

The theme will be "The Beatitudes of Jesus: "A Disposition of the Heart". Each Wednesday we will learn about one or two of the beatitudes listed in Matthew chapter 5:1-11, which teach us a Christ-like way of being and living in the world. The first and last weeks will be Holden Evening Prayer, and the middle three weeks will be an evening Celtic worship. All are welcome.

First Communion Classes for all ages!
Class will be based on the Small Catechism by Martin Luther
Every Sunday during Lent
(Feb. 22—March 22) 11 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Sign up in the rolling board if interested.



Summer Mission Trip

We're excited to invite you to join our **Summer Mission Trip** to serve with **Friends of Lantern Hill** in **Ensenada, Mexico!**

Friends of Lantern Hill partners with *Linterna del Camino* to **break the cycle of poverty through education, nutrition, and care** in the rural community of Cañón Buena Vista, just outside Ensenada. At the Lantern Hill Community Center, children receive **tutoring, homework help, books to read, healthy meals, and a safe place to grow and play.** The program also supports students with **school supplies,**

backpacks, and high school and college fees, helping them stay in school and pursue a better future.

We invite all individuals that have a desire to learn and serve where there is need. Whether it's a construction project in our education center, assisting our teachers, helping in the kitchen or simply playing games with the kids.

- **Trip Dates:** June 22 – June 26, 2026
- **Location:** Ensenada, Mexico (Cañón Buena Vista)

Please sign up in the Narthex if you are interested.

Souper Bowl Food Drive

What do you think we should collect for February, 2026 for Pathways of Hope?

Donuts, cookies, spinach, Nope!!!

We shall collect Soup in honor of the 2026 Super Bowl !!!!

Is that an original idea,

No!

We do it every year for our Super Bowl collection

You can bring anything. You make the selection

Pathways needs, pop top anything, unless it is pop top beets, which literally no one eats

So, please bring super bowl soup, canned meat, cereal is a real treat..

Everything is appreciated

Also Thanks for the many donated gift cards and angel tree presents.

You all made the Pathways families' Christmas so pleasant.

St Paul parishioners are always so giving

You give Pathways clients a reason for living!!!!!!

Hope, Faith, and Love

Thanks again for all the gift cards.. and seriously, I do need a donated car. One of my families had their car repossessed last week. My client cannot work as he was in a work related accident and has injuries to his back and both knees: Two torn ACL's. His wife cannot work as she is pregnant and nearing her due date. If you know of anyone who wants to donate a car, or lend a car, please let me know. They have three children, two of which need to get to school. Please put this family in your Prayers.. Thank you, J Nolan





VBS & MUSIC CAMP

June 15—19

9 a.m.—3 p.m.



SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

9:30 a.m. — In-Person Worship &
Live Stream on Facebook

The. Rev. Nathaniel D. Allen
W. Chris Winn, Director of Music
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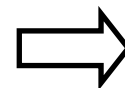
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