

Loving Behaviors

We, as members, leaders, and participants of St. Paul Lutheran Church, agree to strive to Share Christ's Love with Joy through these loving behaviors.

We will:

- Pray for each other and for ourselves to seek harmony. (James 5:16)
- Love one another. (1 John 4:7)
- Treat others with kindness and respect as we expect to be treated. (Matthew 7:12)
- Engage in and support the life of the church through worship, prayer, fellowship, finances, and participation. (Hebrews 10:24-25)
- Invite others to participate in the life of the congregation. (Hebrews 13:1-2)
- Demonstrate open, respectful communication. (Matthew 18:15-18; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21; James 1:19-21)
 - Listen with respect and an open mind.
 - Ask questions for clarification.
 - Respond from the first person (I feel, I think, I believe) when in debates, speaking tactfully with gentleness and patience.
 - Speak honestly.
 - Communicate directly with each other not to a third person.
- Seek to understand and respect differing viewpoints. (1 Corinthians 1:10)
- Seek forgiveness when our words or actions have caused pain to others. Forgive when another's words or actions have caused me pain. (Matthew 6:12)
- Practice a mindset of love for God and our church before ourselves. (Philippians 2:1-5)



St. Paul Lutheran Church

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Scripture References

James 5:16 Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.

1 John 4:7 Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.

Matthew 7:12 Jesus said, "In everything do to others as you would have them do to you; for this is the law and the prophets."

Hebrews 10:24-25 And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, ²⁵ not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Hebrews 13:1-2 Let mutual love continue. ² Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.

Matthew 18:15-18 Jesus said, "If another member of the church^[a] sins against you,^[b] go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one.^{[c] 16} But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷ If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸ Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

2 Corinthians 5:16-21 From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view;^[a] even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view,^[b] we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷ So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! ¹⁸ All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹ that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself,^[C] not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. ²⁰ So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹ For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

James 1:19-21 You must understand this, my beloved:^[a] let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰ for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. ²¹ Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

1 Corinthians 1:10 Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, ^[a] by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same purpose.

Matthew 6:12 And forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.

Philippians 2:1-5 If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, ² make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. ⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was^[a] in Christ Jesus.