

St. Paul Epistle - May 2015

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A Letter from Your Pastor

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"Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have" (1 Peter 3:15). "Whoever acknowledges me before men, I will also acknowledge him before my Father in heaven" (Matthew 10:32). Confirmation Sunday is a very special occasion when we publicly profess our faith before others as we explain the reason for the hope which we have. This year at St. Paul we will hold the Rite of Confirmation during the 11:00 a.m. service on May 3. The Rite of Confirmation not only is a time to make a pledge to God, but also a time to remember God's pledges to us, including Jesus' promise at His ascension: "Surely I am with you always, to the very end of the world" (Matthew 28:20). We can remember that in our times of trouble in life, we can always call on Jesus Christ! Our confirmation class consists of five students this year: Kaitlyn Cook, Ben Gebhart, Alex Highby, Jordan Vetter, and Kaitlin Wegner. As is our custom, during the 11:00 service the confirmants will each share a personal faith statement, explaining the important role that Jesus plays in their lives. Please pray for our 8th graders as they are confirmed and publicly acknowledge Jesus Christ.

Our Mission is:

- To Know Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord,
- To Grow in faith through His Sacraments and Word, and
- To Go share His Gospel with love in our community and world.



A Sneak Peek at Coming Attractions

Last summer the sermon series by pastor was on the 12 disciples. People learned a great deal about these men that were used by God in amazing ways. This summer, we turn our attention to the women, with a special sermon series on some of the memorable women in the Bible. With a mix of some from the Old Testament and some from the New, you will gain deeper insight into how God has used the women who served Him.

Worship Services at St. Paul Lutheran Church

Sunday, May 3

*Confirmation Sunday
(11am)*

*Holy Communion
8:30 & 11:00 a.m.*

*Sunday, May 10
8:30 & 11:00 a.m.*

*Sunday, May 17
Holy Communion
8:30 & 11:00 a.m.*



Sunday, May 24

*Memorial Weekend
Only One Service
10:00 a.m.*

Sunday, May 31

*Holy Communion
8:30 & 11:00 a.m.*

Fall Festival– NOW IS SEPTOBERFEST

September 18, 19, 20

Get ready for a busy weekend!! We will have the tent and use it from Friday night to Sunday afternoon. We are celebrating our FAITH with worship, fun and fellowship and want to include all our members and our community. We will need everyone to help make it a special weekend by helping with the events and participating in them also.

The planning committee has been working on some ideas and some of them are: movies and food in the tent on Friday evening, a full day on Saturday with yoga, pancake breakfast and a fun afternoon. Some things we have talked about are inflatables for the kids, games for all, craft show and a brat supper with trunk tailgate party with all the fixings. Then top the evening off with a concert by "Higher Power". (inside the church)

Sunday will be church inside and then in the tent with a catered dinner at noon.

Doesn't this sound like fun?? It is all in the planning stage and we will need help as this is an all congregation event. This is only a tentative plan subject to change.

We have other ideas also and if you have some ideas, please pass them on to the committee members: Karen Griffin and Lori Jenks, Kevin Dougan, Pat Thiede, Ron Coy and Nick Schieffer.



Youth News



Let's Make life a PICNIC and GAMES for one night!

All Youth in grades 1-12 are invited to join us at Moore Park at the Cone Flower shelter house (the smaller shelter before the big one) for the end of the year picnic and games on Wednesday, May 13 from 5-7pm.

The Board of Youth will provide hot dogs to roast, beverages and supplies to make s'mores. We need you to bring a side dish to share (chips, relish tray, salad, fruit etc.)

We will have a basketball, bean bag toss game and ladder golf game. Feel free to bring any outdoor games of your own to play/share. We might even do a relay game with prizes!

SUMMER CAMPS – AT CAMP OKOBOJI

This year Camp Okoboji is celebrating it's 75th year and YOU can be a part of it! The camp theme is G.E.M.S. -God's Eternal Mercy Saves. The theme verse is "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; His mercies never come to an end," Lamentations 3:22.



For any youth in grades 3-12 interested in going to camp at Camp Okoboji this summer, we can help you! Just write the Board of Youth a note including your name and contact information, what week of camp you want to attend and why. After we get all letters in, we will divide the funds we have available equally to each camper –It's that easy! Scholarships are also available from the district and the Camp Auxiliary but must be applied for soon.

All registrations have started, so please submit funding requests soon. The Board of Youth would like to have all letters of request by May 24. Any requests after that date will still be accepted, but cannot be guaranteed before camp registration late fee date.

Below are some of the more requested camps, but you can go to their website at www.campokoboji.org for a complete listing.

- Girls Basketball or Volleyball Camps- June 7-13.
- Jr. High Week – July 5-11
- Concordia Cub Week – July 12-18
- Youth Week – July 19-25

For any questions, please contact Carla Murphy, Board of Youth Vice Chair 450-5180 or cjm95@ameritech.net.

Education News



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION Our Children Need YOU!



Please give prayerful consideration to becoming either a Sunday School teacher or Midweek teacher for the 2015-2016 school year. You may tag-team with another person so you only teach for $\frac{1}{2}$ of the year. Midweek begins at 4:30 and is over at 5:30 on Wednesdays. This is a great opportunity to share your love of Christ with our young members. Contact Cindy Baas to volunteer.

Thank you, Board of Education



2015 High School Graduate

KATHARINE ELSA DRYER

Class of 2015

Katie will graduate from South Hamilton High School in Jewell on Sunday, May 24th. In high school she has been involved with choir, show choir, served as manager for both basketball and volleyball, participated in drama for 4 years – serving in a Stage Manager role for the school's production of Beauty & The Beast, and served as a Kindergarten Cadet Teacher. Katie is a member of the South Hamilton National Honor Society.

The highlight of her high school career was traveling to 7 European countries last summer for one month with the Iowa Ambassadors of Music. In June she will travel with students from Fort Dodge & Webster City to Spain.

Katie will be attending Iowa State University in the fall where she will pursue a degree in Elementary Education/Special Education.



Education News

Calendar

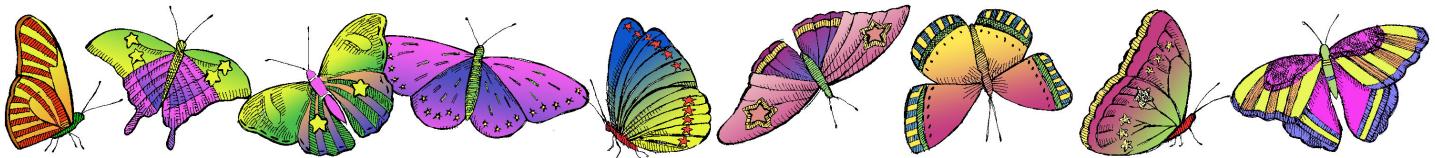
April 29—Last day of Midweek

May 17—Last day of Sunday School



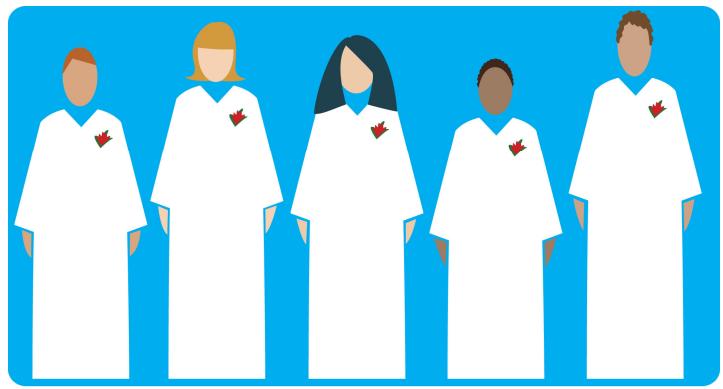
This year's date for VBS has been set! Set your calendar for: **July 19-22**

There will be music, Bible lessons and so much more! Stay tuned for more details.



Congratulations to the 2015 Confirmation class!

The confirmands are Ben Gebhart, Jordan Vetter, Alex Highby, Kaitlyn Wegner and Kaitlyn Cook. Be sure to congratulate them on this very special time in their Christian lives.



Kudos to Our Confirmands

Stewardship News

God is very great. He outshines the power and glory of the stars He created. Yet God is also very close to each individual person. He loves each person as if he or she were the only person He created. More splendid than a sea of stars, God's love streams from the cross where Jesus Christ died, from the tomb that could not contain Him, and from the Day of Pentecost when He gave a special measure of the Holy Spirit to the members of His church.

God in Christ cares about our physical as well as spiritual needs. The material blessings He gives are always meant to benefit our spiritual welfare. Consider God's care over our lives in the words of Christ recorded in Matthew 6:25-27.

"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life?"

Thank you.

God's Blessings, Dennis Dobberke



St. Paul Trading Post



May Trading Post Ads:

2 Ship Models—new in boxes. One is the Mayflower (easier level of skill) and the other is the Titanic. Contact Karen Schreiber in the church office or at 515-433-9631.

Vintage Fisher Price Little People Sets— House, barn, Mainstreet, figures. (Not for children—people figures are a choking hazard.) Contact Karen Schreiber in the church office or at 515-433-9631.

Human Care News

April is Good Neighbor Awareness Month: “Who has Good Neighbor helped?”

The headlines in the news tell the numbers about poverty, but those numbers represent real people. Even when the economy is deemed stable, a family of three in Story County requires an income of more than \$15 per hour to meet its basic needs for food, housing and utilities. For these families, an unexpected medical bill or car repair can force them to choose between paying for food or rent. During these difficult economic times, many people have lost jobs, or experienced pay cuts and furloughs.



The number of families needing assistance, especially for the first time, continues to rise. In the past fiscal year, Good Neighbor provided rental and/or utility assistance to 345 households, representing 928 individuals that received help to remain in their homes with needed utility services. Over 73% of these individuals and families had incomes that were at or below 100% of the poverty level. These households were located in every community throughout Story County, with over one third residing outside of Ames.

In an effort to determine the long term impact of the services being provided, Good Neighbor conducts follow up surveys with landlords, property managers and utility providers. Surveys are conducted a minimum of nine months after rent/utility assistance has been provided by Good Neighbor. For the first nine months of the last fiscal year, the survey results are:

76% of those receiving rental assistance were either still in their homes or had moved in good standing with the landlord.

87% of those receiving utility assistance still had active accounts or had closed the account without leaving an outstanding balance.

Bethesda Food Pantry

Sunday, April 19th, is Bethesda Food Bank Sunday. Please bring items and place in the tub in the east entryway. Cash donations are also welcome and allow the food pantry to buy what they need at a greatly reduced price. You may place your check in the offering plate as long as it is marked “Bethesda Food Pantry.”



Human Care News

Easter Breakfast Thanks - to borrow a phrase from Coach Rhoads,

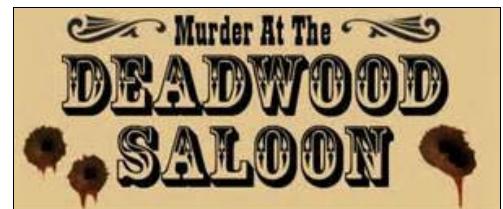
"I'm so proud to be" a part of the St. Paul family. Thanks to everyone who attended our Easter Breakfast and donated money toward the 2016 Youth trip and To everyone who volunteered their time and talents to make it all happen, "I am so proud" of your efforts - from the people who donated the coffee creamer, to the youth who served, and to those who rolled up their sleeves and did all the dishes, as one volunteer said "this is a lot of work!" I want to thank you ALL for making the work "fun". THANK YOU!!! Ellen



Murder Mystery Dinner....the lights went out, a shot was fired, a dead body lay on the floor.....who did it?



The St. Paul Players once again provided the clues and chuckles that helped solve the murder, while providing an entertaining evening. Chuck Wagon Chef, Duane Faas, provided a mouth waterin', finger lickin' good dinner, served up by our youthful saloon servers. Applause, applause to you all for making it an evening to remember.



The St. Paul Players:

Matt Wegner, Lowell Highby, Kent Ziebell, John Murphy, Dennis Dobberke, Ron & Julie Coy, Jakob Tibben, Karen Griffin, Tanny Latuska, Phil Voge

Board of Evangelism News



The Evangelism committee applied for two grants from Iowa District West and St. Paul was awarded two \$500 Ablaze grants at the recent Ablaze banquet held in Denison. Ron Coy was present to accept the grants from President Sieveking.

Men's Event: "Men Without Fear" on April 11 and the Sunday morning Adult Bible class on April 12 welcomed Col. Jimmy Coy (Ret.) who shared many faith-filled stories about his service in the military and his battle with cancer.



If God is your Co-pilot, swap seats!

We don't change the message, The message changes us.

Prayer:

Don't give God instructions, just report for duty!

The task ahead of us is never as great as the Power behind us.

Women of St. Paul

Family Service Circle Meeting and Potluck in May

Family Service will quilt on May 14 beginning at 10 a.m. Bring your sack lunch for our noon break.



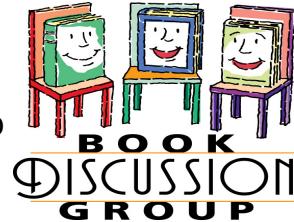
All St. Paul women are invited to the Family Service Potluck at noon on Thursday, May 28. You don't need to bring anything. Food and table service will be provided. We usually finish up around 2 p.m. If you are able to attend, please RSVP to Marilyn Hagemoser at 232-2807 or by e-mail at wayneh@iastate.edu

Do you know what is going on in the Iowa West District of the LWML? The LWML IWD eNews is sent to all women of the congregation who have email. If you do not have email, a copy is printed and placed on the LWML bulletin board at the east end of the fellowship hall. You may read it and replace it when you are finished.



“Book to Know to Help You Grow”

Books have been chosen for the next year. Everyone is invited to join us.



Date	Hostess	Book
July 14, 2015 Tuesday	Judy Charlson	<i>Orphan Train</i> By Christina Baker Kline
Sept 10, 2015 Thursday	Tanny Latuska	<i>Seeking Allah: Finding Jesus</i> By Nabeel Qureshi
Nov 12, 2015 Thursday	Karen Griffin	<i>Women of Christmas</i> By Liz Curtis Higgs
Feb 11, 2016 Thursday	Pam Hagen	<i>The Veritas Conflict</i> By Shaunti Feldhahn
April 14 2016 Thursday	Thelma Voetberg	<i>The Sign Painter</i> By Davis Bunn

St. Paul Lutheran Preschool May 2015

**CONGRATULATIONS TO
ST. PAUL LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL
FOR SUPER SUCCESS IN DHS'
IOWA QUALITY RATING SYSTEM!**



St. Paul Lutheran Preschool has made a commitment to provide high quality care to preschoolers. The preschool has worked on levels of achievement through the Iowa's Quality Rating Scale (QRS). Programs can be awarded five different levels of achievement for their accomplishments (Level 1–Level 5). **Congratulations to St. Paul Lutheran Preschool for being awarded a level 5—the top level of success!** The certificate of achievement is posted at the Parent Communication Board (also a copy is shown above). Level Five programs have met state requirements for child care licensing; worked with a nurse consultant; and meet professional development, health and safety, environment, family and community partnership, and leadership and administration goals. Along with the certificate from DHS, St. Paul Lutheran Preschool also received a \$2,000 achievement bonus for their commitment to high quality care for preschoolers.



St. Paul Lutheran Preschool celebrated the Week of the Young Child, April 13-17! Special days were held to celebrate the importance of early childhood education for a preschooler's life. We thank God for each of the preschoolers! Monday was Hat Day, Tuesday was Silly Sock Day, Thursday was Mismatch Day, and Friday was Pajama Day.

May 2015 concludes St. Paul Lutheran Preschool's 11th year of ministry in the Ames community. God's blessings to all the preschoolers who will be moving on. We praise God for the opportunity for a new school year in the Fall when we can start a new chapter with returning and new preschoolers and their families being touched by Jesus.

Numbers 6:24-26 “The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace.”



May 2015 Service Roster

	May 3 8:30	May 3 11:00 Confirmation	May 10 8:30	May 10 11:00	May 17 8:30	May 17 11:00	May 24 10:00	May 31 8:30	May 31 11:00
Organist	Mary Nelson		Praise Team		Mary Nelson		LaDonna Osborn	TBA	
Elders	Jeff Cook	Brad Tibben	→						
Lectors	Judi Charlson	Keith Folkmann	Judi Charlson	Keith Folkmann	Judi Charlson	Keith Folkmann	Reiny Friedrich	Reiny Friedrich	Keith Folkmann
Acolytes	Abby Tibben	Morgan Tupper			Jordan Vetter	Alex Highby		Kaitlin Wegner	Jaden Ask
Ushers	Tom & Cindy Baas, Paul Knop, Ardy Ulrichson	Becky Jackson, Steve Vollstedt, Matt Weiss, Dick Peterson	→						
Greeters	Dave & Judi Charlson, Reiny & Maureen Friedrich	Keith & Carol Folkmann, Karen Griffin	→						
Coffee Fellowship	Confirmand Reception		Petersons, Griffins, Wanda Schulte				No Coffee-Memorial Day Weekend		
Altar Flowers	Altar Guild				Dryer Family			Brad Tibben Family	
Offering Counters	Al & Tanny Latuska	→							
Power Point	Judy Peter	Doug Litwiller	→						
Sound Board	Tom Peter	Greg Van Nostrand	→						
Altar Guild	Karen Griffin, Geri Schulz,	Sharron Martin	→						
Video Recorder	Merle Suntken	→							
Collate Bulletins	Dave & Judi Charlson	→							