

MARCH 2016

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH
610 15TH ST.
AMES, IA 50010
515-232-5838

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.SAINTPAULAMES.ORG

REV. TODD JENKS, PASTOR
MARY NELSON, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC
LORI JENKS, PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR
PRESCHOOL- 515-233-1914

A Letter from your Pastor

Dear friends in the Lord,
During the season of Lent, we remember the sacrifice that our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ made on the cross for our sins. We reflect in reverent awe at the amazing love which moved Jesus to receive our punishment. This year, our Wednesday evening Lenten theme is "Places of the Passion." We will revisit and reflect on the places where Christ encountered the events of His earthly ministry's culmination, from the upper room to the Garden of Gethsemane, from the courtyard of Pilate to the execution site known as Golgotha. We will recount the places Jesus visited during

His Passion, as Christ experienced physical suffering which wracked His body with pain, so that we might gain forgiveness and eternal life.

I invite you and encourage you to attend our special Lenten services at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday evenings this month. Our special Wednesday evening Lenten services are about 45 minutes in length--and are preceded by spectacular suppers in the fellowship hall at 5:45 p.m. each Wednesday. Pause to contemplate what Christ has done for you. Come to give thanks to God for His wondrous love for you. *"But God shows His love for*

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us in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8). Glory be to Jesus, who in bitter pains, poured for me the life-blood from His sacred veins.

In Christ, the Savior who suffered on our behalf,

Pastor Jenks



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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.

Worship Services at St. Paul Lutheran Church

Wednesday, March 2

Lent IV - 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 6

Time & Talent Sunday

Holy Communion

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

Wednesday, March 9

Lent V - 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 13

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

Wednesday, March 16

Lent VI - 7:00 p.m.



**MARCH
WORSHIP**

Sunday, March 20

Palm Sunday

Holy Communion

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

Maundy Thursday,

March 24

Holy Communion

7:00 p.m.

Good Friday, March 25

7:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday, March 27

7:30 & 10:00 a.m.

Lenten Suppers and Services

Come worship with us this Lent as we remember Christ's suffering and sacrifice to bring us God's love and forgiveness. Fellowship Suppers are served every Wednesday Night at 5:45 p.m. during Lent followed by worship services at 7:00 p.m.

Upcoming Lent Suppers:

March 2nd: Human Care & Stewardship

March 9th— Evangelism & Trustees

March 16th— Education & Youth

Holy Week Services:

Maundy Thursday, March 28, 7:00 pm

(No Fellowship supper)

Good Friday, March 29, 7:00 pm

(No Fellowship supper)

EASTER PROCESSION- Our celebration of Christ’s resurrection will soon be here. Would you like to praise the Lord as part of the Easter Procession on March 27 at the 7:30 am service? The furnishings of the chancel are removed during the Maundy Thursday service. 36 men, women and children are needed to bring in the lilies, communion ware, paraments, and candles in this glorious Easter service. If you want to be a part of this please contact Judy Peter at 232-1876 or sign up on the bulletin board in the narthex.



HOLY SATURDAY – PRAYER VIGIL

All members (youth and adults) are encouraged to participate in the annual Easter Prayer Vigil on **Saturday, March 26th**, in the church sanctuary. The signup board for this 9-hour vigil is located on a table in the west narthex and has 15-minute time slots available. The vigil begins promptly at 6:00 a.m. and ends at 3:00 p.m. Special personal prayer requests and meditation materials will be available to aid you during your vigil period.



Prayer Vigil

Before then, you are encouraged to submit personal prayer requests—these can be made using the cards found next to the signup board. These requests will be sorted among the time slots and prayers will be said on your behalf. This time of private meditation allows an opportunity to reflect on the sacrifice Christ made on your behalf, and to contemplate His astounding love for you.

Mortgage Update by Drue Sander, Treasurer

LET’S BURN THE MORTGAGE IN 2016 – At the request of the Board of Directors, I’m giving St. Paul members an update on our mortgage loan and our goal to retire that debt this year. On January 1, 2016 our principal balance is \$30,621.82. All praise and thanks to the Lord, we have come a long way. Now as our Vision Planning Team works to develop our action plans for the years ahead, let’s close the books, so to speak, on the efforts of our successful last strategic plan-

ning process by retiring our remaining debt. We ask that you accept this challenge and prayerfully consider using the Building Fund Envelopes in your packets to make an extra gift in the months ahead, to help accomplish this goal. Let’s celebrate being debt free as we begin our new fiscal year in July 2016.

Amount received as of this writing, \$5460. Debt is now down to around \$25,000. Thanks be to God!



Education and Youth

EASTER EGG HUNT

Come and enjoy a different kind of Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday March 20th from 1:30 to 3:00pm. Children will have the opportunity to learn about the Easter Story as well as gather eggs.



We are also collecting wrapped candy and cash donations for this event. Place candy in the bin provided. Checks/cash should be designated "Easter Egg Hunt".



This Spring the St. Paul Sunday School children will be collecting cash donations to support the ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN.



The Orphan Grain Train is a 501c3 Nonprofit Christian volunteer network that shares personal and material resources with needy people in America and around the world. Grain Train volunteers gather donations of clothing, medical supplies, food, Christian literature,

and other aid to meet real needs. The Orphan Grain Train movement is a loving response to Jesus Christ's example as a servant and His love for us.

Since 1992, Orphan Grain Train's 22 regional locations have delivered more than 10 million meals and 2,505 shipments of humanitarian aid to needy people in 25 states and 64 countries on 5 continents. An additional 330 semi-loads of hay and forage products were delivered in 2002-03 to drought-stricken farmers in the Midwest during Operation Hay and Grain Lift. In 2014, Orphan Grain Train built a mobile chapel with help from a grant funded by LCMS Disaster Relief division for St. John's Lutheran Church in Pilger, NE after their church as demolished by a F4 tornado.

The mission of Orphan Grain Train is uniquely dependent upon dedicated volunteers, many of whom have given numerous years of service for the sake of others. Since 1992, more than 3.5 million hours have been volunteered!

Orphan Grain Train is a recognized service organization (RSO) of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod (LCMS). Many shipments have been in cooperation with Lutheran Hour Ministries, LCMS World Mission, LCMS World Relief, and other Christian ministries.



Education and Youth

Youth Sunday: April 10, 2016 – 8:30 & 11am Services

Calling all youth in grades 1-12 -- Youth Sunday is a special day when the youth (grades 1-12) lead the services. They greet members and visitors at the door, they usher, sing, play in the youth music ensemble, read the readings, lead the service, lead the children's message, and create bulletin covers. There are plenty of ways to be involved!

We will be handing out parts later this month. If your child(ren) get a part and are not able to be at both services, please let us know as soon as you can so we can make sure all parts are covered at each service.

For youth who wish to play in the youth ensemble, please contact Wayne Hagemoser with what instrument you would like to play so he can get the music prepared.

We are still working on practice days/times, so look for future emails and announcements.

We hope all will plan to be a part of this service. Please contact Carla Murphy for questions/concerns.

SHARE THE FUN of Adventureland

Look for more information out soon about "Sharing the Fun" of Adventureland during their substance-free weekends. St. Paul members and preschool families who sign up in advance will receive a discount on tickets of only \$22 each. Ticket holders will have their choice of attending one of the following dates: April 30, May 1, May 7 or May 8. Look for a sign up sheet soon.

Do you like to work with youth? Are you looking for a place to serve your Lord and church family?

If so, the Board of Youth needs you! We are looking for someone to be Vice Chair starting in July for this next term as well as members to serve on the Youth Board. Meetings are once a month and then activities are once a month from September to May.

For more information, please contact Carla Murphy, Chair Board of Youth.

New Time & Talent opportunity for Youth in Grades 9-12

Please review your Time & Talent Sheet insert your family will be receiving in the mail. There is a new opportunity for you to serve your Lord and fellow St. Paul members. It is to serve as a Youth Representative on a Board. You are our future leaders of the church and we would love to have you participate on any Board of your choice/interest. For questions or more info, please contact Carla Murphy.

Hey Youth – Let's go to summer camp at Camp Okoboji!

The Board of Youth has funds set aside to help finance any St. Paul youth attending any of these camps, as well as the IDW and the Camp Auxiliary. For more information, please contact Carla Murphy.

Jr. High Week – July 10-16 : Campers who have completed 6th-8th grades. Meet new friends, engage in Bible study, crafts, music, and recreation such as archery, 9 square and gaga ball. Cost: \$310 before June 10.

Concordia Cub Week - July 17-23: For campers who have completed 3rd-6th grades. Events include archery, canoeing, gaga pit, ultimate Frisbee, 4-way soccer, and cabin challenge times. Cost: \$330 before June 10.

Youth Week - July 24-30: Campers who have completed 8th-12th grades experience in depth Bible study, team building, sports, crafts, music and more! Cost: \$320 if before June 24.



Stewardship



Christian people might ask or wonder "what are the biblical principles for Christian giving?" As we seek God's answer to that question and we prayerfully consider our own giving to the Lord's church in response to the clear teaching of His Word, perhaps it would be wise and helpful to review a couple key Bible passages. It is in God's word where we can find the answers to how He wants us to use our Time, Talents, and Treasures.

Let's consider 2 Corinthians 9: 6-8: *Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times; having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.*

In Romans 12: 4-8: *Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man's gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith. If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously; if it is leadership, let him govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully.*

Stewardship is the offering of our entire selves to God. We have a choice: to live self-willed lives or Christ-centered lives. God gives us all our time, talents and treasures; we should give back to him the first fruits of these gifts. Please ask God in prayer, as individuals and as a family, for his guidance in making your choices in thanks and praise to Him.

St. Paul Stewardship Board



Women of St. Paul & Family Service Group

Easter breakfast plans are being made....



Easter Breakfast

It's time once again to be thinking about our Easter Breakfast. The sign-up sheet is available now, and it takes a lot of people to make our breakfast so successful. We need volunteers to set up on Saturday, cook on Sunday, and to help clean-up after the

breakfast. Also you have the opportunity to sign up to bring everything from sweets to salsa. If you are new to the congregation, this is a great opportunity to work with and get to know members of our congregation. Look for the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board or in our fellowship hall. Thank you in advance for your help. If you have any questions, please contact Ellen Sander at druellen@hotmail.com or at 292-3574.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

Family Service has applied for and been accepted to Thrivent's Action

Team. Our team will be making quilts for Orphan Grain Train and lap robes



for Israel Hospice House. This will be a new method of operation for us, and we are excited about it as we will be doing more cutting, pressing, and sewing in the church fellowship hall. **Our meeting dates are** March 10th and 24th beginning at 10 a.m. We break for lunch at noon (bring your lunch). On the 10th we quilt until 2 p.m. On the 24th we begin our Family Service meeting at 1 p.m. which includes a devotion and dessert. We are always anxious for new people to join us.



Serve the Lord with Gladness...Psalm 100:2



Mark Your Calendars....the Women of St Paul and Conversational Dinners will be hosting Dinner and a Movie, on Saturday, April 9th.

Our chef for the evening will again be Duane Faas and he has promised to cook up a special dinner for us. Our feature movie will be announced in March. Everyone is invited, Mark your calendars and come and join us.



The 2016 flower chart is now posted on the bulletin board. Please sign up to provide flowers for our upcoming worship services. Include the reason or dedication on the chart.

Thank you.

Women of St. Paul

LWML Mite Update:

National- (as of 1/31/16)

Mission Goal for 2015-2017 Biennium: \$2,000,000

Amount Received: \$797,474.87

Amount Needed: \$ 1,202,525.13

For more information about the LWML visit the website at lwml.org.



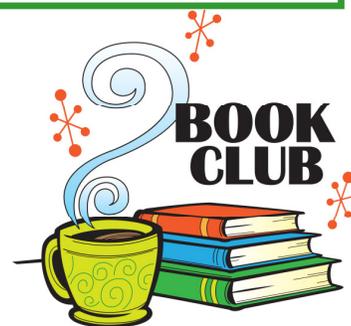
Do you know what is going on in the Iowa West District of the LWML?

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”

On April 14 we will discuss “The Sign Painter” by Davis Bunn. The location of our meeting will be published in the next Epistle. Following is the Barnes & Noble description: “A deeply emotive story about a young mother struggling to get back on her feet after a devastating loss leaves both her and her daughter alone and living on the street—from bestselling and award-winning author Davis Bunn. Amy Dowell had always considered herself a very good mother. But when she loses her husband to illness and her home to debt, she finds herself and her young daughter, Kimberly, living on the streets as she struggles to find a job that will get them back on their feet again. When Amy meets Lucy Watts, the pastor in charge of the church program that fed Amy and Kimberly their latest meal, Lucy sets them up in temporary housing and gives her a lead on a job painting signs for a local auto dealership—but Amy is hesitant to let go and trust. Is this finally a legitimate break? Can Amy subject herself to the possibility of disappointment and hurt by hoping again? Inspired by the true story, *The Sign Painter* is a tale of desperation, taking chances, and ultimately redemption. This heartwarming novel blends mystery, romance, and characters you’ll root for, will leave you wondering—*Is home really where the heart is?*”



At our April meeting we will be choosing books for the next year, so start compiling your list of suggestions.

| Date | Hostess | Book |
|---------------------------|---------|--|
| April 14 2016 Thursday | TBA | <i>The Sign Painter</i> By Davis Bunn |

March 2016 Service Roster

| | March 6 8:30 | March 6 11:00 | March 13 8:30 | March 13 11:00 | March 20 8:30 | March 20 11:00 | March 27 7:30 Easter | March 27 10:00 Easter |
|---------------------|---|--|--------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Organist | Mary Nelson | | Praise Team | | Mary Nelson | | Mary Nelson | |
| Elders | Steve Johnson | Steve Vollstedt → | | | | | | |
| Lectors | Paul Knop | Wayne Hagemoser | Paul Knop | Keith Folkmann | Connie Hand | Keith Folkmann | Connie Hand | Keith Folkmann |
| Acolytes | Erin Murphy | Jaden Ask | | | Tracy Gillen | Isaac Harris | | |
| Greeters | Dennis & Joyce Dobberke, Elsie Bauman | Phil & Alberta Voge, Gretchen Zitterich → | | | | | | |
| Ushers | Paul & Adele Knop, Tom Henriksen, Connie Hand | Keith & Carol Folkmann, Greg & Ben Gebhart → | | | | | | |
| Coffee Fellowship | Maureen & Reiny Friedrich | | Linda & Dick Peterson | | Tom & Judy Peter | | Easter Breakfast | |
| Coffee Time Greeter | Joyce Dobberke → | | | | | | | |
| Altar Flowers | | | | | | | | |
| Offering Counters | Tom & Judy Peter → | | | | | | | |
| Power Point | Judy Peter | Greg VanNostrand → | | | | | | |
| Sound Board | Tom Peter | Thomas Wilson → | | | | | | |
| Altar Guild | Sharon Martin, Geri Schulz, | Beth Henriksen, Judy Peter → | | | | | | |
| Video Recorder | Jerry Schradle → | | | | | | | |
| Collate Bulletins | Reiny, Maureen, & Katie Friedrich → | | | | | | | |

Lent Services Roster

| | March 2 7:00 p.m. Wednesday Lent 4 | March 9 7:00 p.m. Wednesday Lent 5 | March 16 7:00 p.m. Wednesday Lent 6 | March 24 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday | March 25 7:00 p.m. Good Friday |
|--------------------------|--|--|---|--|--|
| Organist | Mary Nelson | Mary Nelson | Mary Nelson | Mary Nelson | Mary Nelson |
| Elder | Mark Swenson | Steve Vollstedt | Steve Johnson | Matt Weiss | Paul Knop |
| Acolyte | | | | Abby Tibben | |
| Lector | Caleb Donavon | John Murphy | Gretchen Zitterich | Keith Folkmann | Phil Voge |
| Ushers | Clare Tweedt, Vickie Roach, Wendy & Caleb Donavon | Greg & Ben Gebhart, Ron Juelfs, Mike Lindell | Dennis Griffin, Tom Henriksen, Larry Wiebel, Linda Naeve | Dick Peterson, David Pietsch, Thomas & Lisa Wilson | Connie Hand, Steve Vollstedt, Phil & Alberta Voge |
| Greeters | Kevin & Rita Dougan | John & Carla Murphy, Erin & Daniel | Bud & Thelma Voetberg | Keith & Carol Folkmann | Steve & Marlene Johnson |
| Offering Counters | Tom & Judy Peter | Tom & Judy Peter | Tom & Judy Peter | Tom & Judy Peter | Tom & Judy Peter |
| Power Point | Julie Coy | Connie Lastine | Becky Jackson | Julie Coy | Lisa Wilson |
| Sound-board | John Murphy | Wes Lastine | Charles Ellis | Harry Mundt | Thomas Wilson |
| Collate bulletins | Reiny, Maureen & Katie Friedrich | Reiny, Maureen & Katie Friedrich | Reiny, Maureen & Katie Friedrich | Reiny, Maureen & Katie Friedrich | Reiny, Maureen & Katie Friedrich |

St. Paul Trading Post

March Trading Post Ads:

—10 gallon Aquarium with fish.

Trading Post items are always Free

This is a feature in the monthly newsletter called "St. Paul Trading Post" for members to list items that they would like to give away. Members could also list things they are in need of to see if anyone in the church has that particular item that they would like to get rid of.

It works like this:

~Members having an item they would like to list will submit the information to the office.

~Members who are interested in any of the items will contact the person directly.

~All items will only be listed for one month, but the lister can re-list for an additional month if they re-submit their request to the office.

Delivery will be worked out between the parties involved, no items can be dropped off at the church.