

St. Paul Epistle—March 2014

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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.

A Message from Pastor Jenks

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 "Broken and Restored." Remember how Judas broke trust with Jesus by betraying Jesus? Remember how Peter broke his promise to Jesus with his denials of Jesus? Remember how the broken justice system made a mockery of a trial? Yet all this brokenness occurred so that Christ might restore us. Like Judas, we have broken Jesus' trust in us. Like Peter, we have broken our word to our Lord. Like the broken judicial system that wrongly put Christ to death, we have broken away from God's justice in our actions.

Jesus Christ willingly gave His life so we might be restored. His death won our forgiveness and eternal life. The love in His heart moved Jesus to willingly endure His suffering and crucifixion, so that our relationship with God would no longer be broken. This Lenten season, we focus on how we are "Restored in Christ!"

I invite you and encourage you to attend our special Lenten services at 7:00 p.m. each Wednesday evening this month. Our special Wednesday evening Lenten services are preceded by super suppers in the fellowship hall at 6:00 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 us in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us"* (Romans 5:8).

In Christ Jesus, the Savior who suffered, died and rose to restore us,

Pastor Jenks

Worship Services at St. Paul Lutheran Church

Sunday, March 2

Holy Communion

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

Wednesday, March 5

Ash Wednesday

7:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 9

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

Wednesday, March 12

Lent 2

7:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 16

Holy Communion

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.



Worship Schedule for March

Wednesday, March 19

Lent 3

7:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 23

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

Wednesday, March 26

Lent 4

7:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 30

Mission Sunday

Holy Communion

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

HOLY SATURDAY – PRAYER VIGIL

All members (youth and adults) are encouraged to participate in the annual Easter Prayer Vigil on **Saturday, April 19th**, in the church sanctuary. The sign-up 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 sign-up 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.



The Preschool board wishes to recognize and thank Lori Jenks for her ten years of service as the St. Paul Preschool Director. She has been key in setting up our Preschool and helping us accomplish our goal of ministering to kids and their families. Please take the time to congratulate Lori, and to thank her for a job well done. There was a special presentation at the 11:00 am service on Preschool Sunday, February 9.

Are you enjoying our services on the new screen?

You can help make these a success! We need more people to run the Power Points and sound board. Neither is difficult, but training is required. If you are able to help, contact Chris Hand or the office.



Don't Be Late For Church

Daylight Savings Time begins on March 9th. Be sure to set your clocks ahead.

A Biblical Tour of Israel & Jordan: (November 18-28, 2014)

An Experience of a Lifetime! A complete tour of Israel & Jordan plus many extras such as visiting Christmas Lutheran Church in Bethlehem, a cruise on the Sea of Galilee, going up to Mt Nebo where Moses died, Petra and much more! Arrangements can be made for departure from any air-

port. Rev Darold Reiner (LCMS) (Former LWML International Counselor) is leading this tour from Kalispell, MT. Contact him for a brochure at 406-890-1149 or reiner@centurytel.net



Education News

Sunday School Mission Projects

Lutheran Church Charities Comfort dogs will be our spring mission project.

The LCC Comfort Dogs and their handlers minister to many hurting people; ranging from visits to nursing homes to visiting the hurting families of tragedies such as Sandy Hook. It costs \$58 per month to feed one dog. Let's see how many dogs we can feed! Each child in Sunday School will receive a business card for one of the dogs which will also include information about the dog's Facebook page so parents can

help the child follow the dog's activities on Facebook if they desire.



Easter Egg Hunt

The annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Palm Sunday, April 13th. A new and exciting format will be used this year. We will need lots of volunteer helpers, so please stay tuned and sign up when asked.



"Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it."

- Proverbs 22:6



VBS

Mark your calendar: VBS is August 3rd-6th. Sunday the 3rd will be Family Night. Plan on attending so the whole family can participate in this activity.

YOUTH SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE 2014

“For God So Loved the World”



Mark Your Calendars – Sunday, April 27th / Both Services

All St. Paul children will be involved!

PRACTICE FOR GRADES 2ND – HIGH SCHOOL:

Wednesday, April 23rd / 5:30 – 7:00 pm (dinner will be served)



Super Bowl Subs and Sweet Goodies!
Thank you!

February 2– Sweets & Treats Sale

On behalf of the Saint Paul youth we would like to say Thank You for your generous support of the Super Bowl Sub and Bake Sale fundraiser for the 2016 National Youth Gathering! Through your continued support of growing the faith of our youth, the event raised over \$1200 through both fundraisers and the coffee fellowship. We would especially like to thank Greg Gebhart for his work on the Super Bowl Subs sales and Becky Jackson on coordinating the bake sale. Their work on these fundraisers was very much appreciated. Again, thank you for your support and watch for future fundraisers!



2016 National Youth Gathering Co-Coordinators
Thomas and Lisa Wilson, Judy Peter

Evangelism News— LERT Training held at St. Paul

On February 8, St. Paul hosted a disaster training through the Iowa District West, with Ellie Menz leading. We were training for LERT (Lutheran Early Response Teams), and several from other congregations also attended. There were about 31 in attendance. We will be looking at emergency responses for our families, church and community. Anyone who would want to help with this, contact Inez Smith, 515-233-1103.



WOSP are hosting a “DRESS FOR LESS”...style show and luncheon.

Join us May 3rd for a lovely style show and salad luncheon featuring attire the discerning thrifty women of our congregation have assembled in their quest for fashion with fewer funds. Yes, it can be done.



Proverbs 31: 13, 19, 21, 22 “She selects wool and flax and works with eager hands.....In her hands she holds the distaff and grasps the spindle with her fingers....When it snows she has no fear for her household: for all of them are clothed in scarletShe makes coverings for her bed; she is clothed in fine linens and purple.”

We will showcase outfits for under \$35. Volunteers are needed to come on over to the consignment store, take a gander at the garage sales, grab a bargain at the Goodwill, assemble accessories or organize an outfit. Suggested shops include...”Miss Myers”, “The Loft”, “DuckWorthWearing,”or “Goodwill” in Ames. Purses, jewelry, scarves, or hats available at “Great Stuff,” “Shari K’s”, Grandma’s closet in Ames and “Consignment Gallery “ in Gilbert, or any consignment shops in surrounding towns. Categories will include, casual, dressy, sporty, accessories, outerwear...prizes will be awarded in each category. More details to follow. Approx. 15 women and children are needed. Please contact Gretchen Zitterich at 232-1765.



Human Care

Special Need

Let's Be Prepared

When a group from IDW goes on a mission trip, they are encouraged to take along supplies the people in the area of the trip may need. Let's be prepared for a possible mission trip this year and start collecting school supplies and health items. Health items needed are toothbrushes, tooth paste, soap, band aids, combs, small shampoos, deodorant or anything you think would be used. Put these items in the tub marked for missions. All sizes of socks and underwear are also needed.

Bethesda Food Pantry

March 16 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."

Higher Power Returns



The very popular Christian quartet is returning to

St. Paul on Saturday, April 26.

They will be inside and will use the new screen to enhance their performance. Reserve this date and tell those

who enjoy listening to them that they will be here again.



*God proves his
love for us in
that while we
still were sinners
Christ died for us.*

ROMANS 5:8, NRSV

Women of St. Paul

Family Service Circle Quilt Group

Family Service will quilt on March 13 and 27 beginning at 10 a.m. Bring your sack lunch for our noon break. Our regular monthly meeting will be held at 1 p.m. on March 27.

Are you Spring Cleaning??

If and when spring does come and you get bit by the "spring cleaning bug", remember that the quilters need gently used sheets and blankets. They make wonderful backings and middles for our quilts, and you know that fabrics are always welcome for making quilt tops.

Upcoming Events

>Soup & Pie sign up coming to a bulletin board soon!

>Watch for news on 'Dress for Less & Eat Lite' in spring!

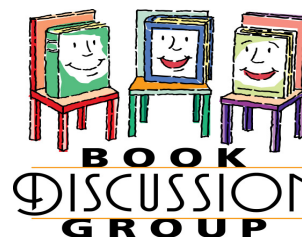
>Don't forget Easter Breakfast still to come!

Praise God for all the willing hands!



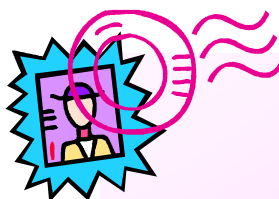
Thanks to the St. Paul Players & all who are helping with 'Dinner & a Mystery' on March 1st.

Old Cell Phones and Ink Cartridges ~ Please continue to save these to help fund the 2015 LWML National convention in Des Moines.



"Book to Know" We will meet on April 10th at the home of Karen Griffin to discuss **"Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience, and Redemption"** by Laura Hillenbrand. The Barnes & Noble website's description of this book is: "On a May afternoon in 1943, an Army Air Forces bomber crashed into the Pacific Ocean and disappeared, leaving only a spray of debris and a slick of oil, gasoline, and blood. Then, on the ocean surface, a face appeared. It was that of a young lieutenant, the plane's bombardier, who was struggling to a life raft and pulling himself aboard. So began one of the most extraordinary odysseys of the Second World War." WOW, sounds so exciting, I can't wait to get started!

**** This group is organized by the WOSP, but men are certainly welcome to join us.**



Please continue to save commemorative stamps for LWML. You may put them in the secretary mailbox.

SINGING WITH THE LUTHERANS

by Garrison Keillor

I have made fun of Lutherans for years - who wouldn't, if you lived in Minnesota? But I have also sung with Lutherans and that is one of the main joys of life, along with hot baths and fresh sweet corn.

We make fun of Lutherans for their blandness, their excessive calm, their fear of giving offense, their lack of speed and also for their secret fondness for macaroni and cheese. But nobody sings like them. If you ask an audience in New York City, a relatively Lutheran-less place, to sing along on the chorus of Michael Row the Boat Ashore, they will look daggers at you as if you had asked them to strip to their underwear. But if you do this among Lutherans they'll smile and row that boat ashore and up on the beach! And down the road! Lutherans are bred from childhood to sing in four-part harmony. It's a talent that comes from sitting on the lap of someone singing alto or tenor or bass and hearing the harmonic intervals by putting your little head against that person's rib cage. It's natural for Lutherans to sing in harmony. We're too modest to be soloists, too worldly to sing in unison. When you're singing in the key of C and you slide into the A7th and D7th chords, all two hundred of you, it's an emotionally fulfilling moment.

I once sang the bass line of Children of the Heavenly Father in a room with about three thousand Lutherans in it; and when we finished, we all had tears in our eyes, partly from the promise that God will not forsake us, partly from the proximity of all those lovely voices. By our joining in harmony, we somehow promise that we will not forsake each other. I do believe this: People, these Lutherans, who love to sing in four-part harmony are the sort of people you could call up when you're in deep distress. If you're dying, they'll comfort you. If you're lonely, they'll talk to you. And if you're hungry, they'll give you tuna salad!

The following list was compiled by a 20th century Lutheran who, observing other Lutherans, wrote down exactly what he saw or heard:

1. Lutherans believe in prayer, but would practically die if asked to pray out loud.
2. Lutherans like to sing, except when confronted with a new hymn or a hymn; with more than four stanzas.
3. Lutherans believe their pastors will visit them in the hospital, even if they don't notify them that they are there.
4. Lutherans usually follow the official liturgy and will feel it is their way of suffering for their sins.
5. Lutherans believe in miracles and even expect miracles, especially during their stewardship visitation programs or when passing the plate.
6. Lutherans feel that applauding for their children's choirs would make the kids too proud and conceited.
7. Lutherans think that the Bible forbids them from crossing the aisle while passing the peace.
8. Lutherans drink coffee as if it were the Third Sacrament.
9. Some Lutherans still believe that an ELCA bride and an LCMS groom make for a mixed marriage.
10. Lutherans feel guilty for not staying to clean up after their own wedding reception in the Fellowship Hall.
11. Lutherans are willing to pay up to one dollar for a meal at church.
12. Lutherans think that Garrison Keillor stories are totally factual.
13. Lutherans still serve Jell-O in the proper liturgical color of the season and think that peas in a tuna noodle casserole adds too much color.
14. Lutherans believe that it is OK to poke fun at themselves and never take themselves too seriously.

And finally, you know when you're a Lutheran when:

It's 100 degrees, with 90% humidity, and you still have coffee after the service; You hear something really funny during the sermon and smile as loudly as you can; Donuts are a line item in the church budget, just like coffee; The communion cabinet is open to all, but the coffee cabinet is locked up tight; All your relatives graduated from a school named Concordia; When you watch a "Star Wars" movie and they say, May the Force be with you, you respond, "and also with you";

And lastly, it takes ten minutes to say good-bye.

Lent Services Roster

	Mar 5 7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday	Mar 12 7:00 p.m. Wednesday Lent 2	Mar 19 7:00 p.m. Wednesday Lent 3	Mar 26 7:00 p.m. Wednesday Lent 4
Organist	Mary Nelson	Ellen Sander	Mary Nelson	Ellen Sander
Elder	Greg Gebhart	Dennis Tice	Jeff Cook	Steve Johnson
Acolyte	Ben Gebhart			
Lector	Phil Voge	Paul Knop	Judy Peter	Marlene Johnson
Ushers	Dennis & Joyce Dobberke, Keith & Carol Folkmann	Randy & Linda Naeve, Ron & Julie Coy	Scott & Brenda Dryer, Tom & Judy Peter	Jeromy & Angela Fritz, Steve & Marlene Johnson
Greeters	Steve & Carol Vollstedt	Denny & Shirley Tice	Lon & Stephanie Taylor	Vic & Geri Schulz
Counters	Larry & Nancy Wiebel	Steve & Marlene Johnson	Greg & Nicole Gebhart	Tom & Judy Peter
Power Point	Tom Baas	Tom Baas	Julie Coy	Julie Coy
Sound- board	Tom Peter	Tom Peter	Tom Baas	Tom Baas
Collate bulletins	Elsie Bauman & Jerry Schradle	Elsie Bauman & Jerry Schradle	Elsie Bauman & Jerry Schradle	Elsie Bauman & Jerry Schradle



LENTEN WORSHIP