

St. Paul Epistle—April 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

Do you like numbers? I'm not talking about the book of Numbers, just numbers in general. This is the time of year when remembering numbers can be helpful. For instance, think about the number 3 in relation to Jesus Christ. The Bible records 3 specific temptations the devil threw Jesus' way. Jesus' public ministry lasted for 3 years. Peter denied Jesus 3 times and was, after Jesus resurrection, 3 times questioned about whether he loved Jesus. Jesus died on a cross, the middle cross of 3 crosses. Jesus lay in the tomb for 3 days and rose again on the 3rd day.

Other numbers also play a part in the passion story. Think about the number 2. Two men who were crucified had their bones broken (one did not, Jesus, in fulfillment of the Scriptures). Two men took Christ down from the cross, wrapped His body for burial and laid Him in the tomb (do you remember who they were?). Two men ran to the tomb on Easter morning to see what had happened (I'm sure you remember them). Two men walked with the risen Jesus on the road to Emmaus.

You see the value in thinking about numbers? Recently, we submitted a report to the Synod, a report that includes many numbers. For instance, the report indicates what percentage of our St. Paul membership is in different age brackets. Here are the numbers for our members: birth to 18 = 24%, 19-34 = 21%, 35-49 = 16%, 50-64 = 19%, 65+ = 20%. Many experts say a church is healthy when it has a broad and even distribution across all age brackets. We do. Our membership percentage is fairly close in all 5 age brackets. Another interesting number we report about our congregation is our average worship attendance. Year after year, our average Sunday worship attendance is fairly consistent, averaging right around 200 people in worship per Sunday. Our worship attendance is consistently maintaining, whereas unfortunately the common trend in our church body and many others is church attendance that is rapidly shrinking.

There is value in thinking about numbers. So think lastly about the number 1. Jesus Christ died one time for the sins of the world. *"He sacrificed for their sins once for all when He offered Himself.... We have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all"* (Hebrews 7:27, 10:10). Jesus had one life to give and He gave it for you. Why? Because you are number one in His eyes. Because He wanted you to receive life's one greatest gift—eternal life. May God bless you as you celebrate the great news of the wondrous gift you have received through Jesus' death and resurrection!

Pastor Jenks

Worship Services at St. Paul Lutheran Church

Wednesday, April 2

Lent Worship

7:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 6

Holy Communion

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

Wednesday, April 9

Lent Worship

7:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 13

Palm Sunday

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.



Thursday, April 17

Maundy Thursday

7:00 p.m.

Friday, April 18

Good Friday

7:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 20

Easter Sunday

Holy Communion

7:30 & 10:00 a.m.

Sunday, April 27

Youth Sunday

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 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.



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.

Thrivent Choice Dollars Benefit St. Paul Ministry

"Thank you to all the members of the congregation that have designated St. Paul Lutheran Church to receive your Thrivent Choice Dollars. At the March Board of Directors Meeting the Board allocated Thrivent Choice Dollars toward the following projects:

\$1399.07 to complete the funding for the new A/V System. This project is now totally funded and all installations have been completed.

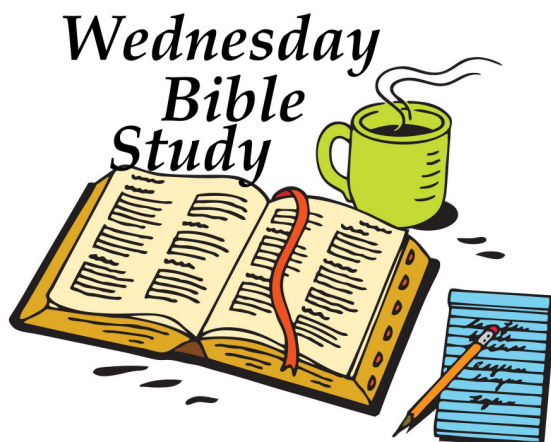
\$2000 to an Audio Visual Enhancement Fund. This will allow us to improve the Audio Visual equipment used in our worship services as new technologies become available.

\$2000 toward our goal of accelerated payoff of our current church mortgage.

Again thank you for your support of St Paul Lutheran church. We appreciate and welcome any ideas for the future application of Thrivent Choice Dollars. These funds are being used to meet the goals and mission of St Paul Lutheran Church.

Drue Sander, Vice Chairman

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 April 20 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 Gretchen Zitterich @232-1765 or gzitterich@mchsi.com or sign up on the bulletin board in the narthex. Your assignments will be posted by Maundy Thursday.



New Bible Study Begins April 30

A new 4-week Bible study will begin on Wednesday, April 30. We will meet Wednesday mornings from 10:30 - 11:30 am for four weeks. What will our subject be? A smorgasbord of surprises! Come and see what we will explore each week. All are welcome.

Education News

Easter Egg Hunt



Come and enjoy a different kind of Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday April 13th from 1:30 to 3:00. 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".

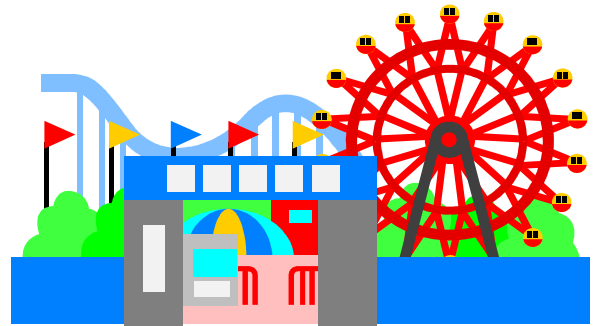


VBS

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.

Adventureland Special

Would you like to join us for the St. Paul Fun Day at Adventureland on Saturday or Sunday, April 26 - 27 OR May 3 - 4? Singles, couples, and families are all invited. You also are welcome to invite friends to attend. (All kids must have their parent or another adult along who is responsible for them.) Tickets are only \$20, which is a discount of up to \$20 per person! Sign up on the bulletin board and tell us how many tickets you'd like!



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)

Easter Breakfast

Easter Breakfast Opportunities...once again St Paul will be serving an Easter Breakfast immediately following our Sunrise Service. We would like to enlist your time, talents or cash donations as we prepare for the event. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex listing all the available opportunities. You can be an egg cracker or an egg chef, a table decorator, goody baker, or a donor of fruit...everyone has an important job to fulfill...and We Need You!!!

If you have a question please contact Ellen Sander at druellen@hotmail.com or at 292-3574.



Conversational Dinners...please reserve this date.. Sunday, May 4th. We have reserved the Stonebrook Clubhouse...more details will follow as we plan our final evening for the 2013-2014 year. You won't want to miss this!!!!

The "All aboard!!!!" sounded and "The Last Train from Paris" pulled out of the station right on time. We want to thank everyone who helped make our journey such a success. Our St Paul Players were terrific, getting into their parts and making us wonder; Is she/he the murderer? Our Chef, Duane Faas outdid any previous meals, treating us to a four course meal. The beef croissant was fantastic. Our Head Waiters, Thomas and Lisa Wilson and their staff of Ben, Alex and Caleb were worthy of a four-star restaurant. Drue Sander, our Wine Steward, took care not to spill a drop. A huge thank you to each of you!!!

Most of all we want to thank everyone who came, dressed in style, I might add. Even though the weather was not ideal, we all gathered and had a great evening of fun, laughter, and a view of our fellow church members we hadn't seen before. We also extend special thanks to our evening's photographer, Amy Buttery, for documenting the evening for us. Vicki Roach, Bud and Thelma Voetberg and Ellen Sander



Spring Clean-up

Spring clean-up is set for Saturday, April 5. Help get our church property ready for Easter Sunday. We will start at 8:30 and should be done by 11:00. Watch for any changes in plans due to weather.



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.



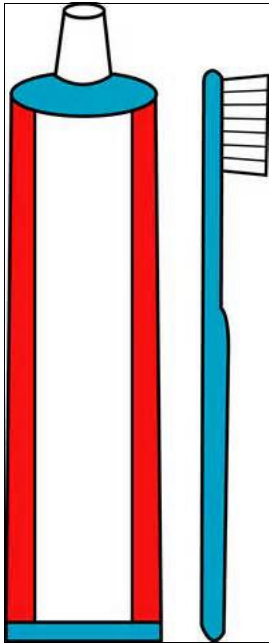
Proverbs 31: 13, 19, 21, 22 “She selects wool and flax and works with eager hands.....In her hands she holds the distaff and grasps the spindle with her fingers.....When it snows she has no fear for her household: for all of them are clothed in scarletShe makes coverings for her bed; she is clothed in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

Mission Trip Donations Needed

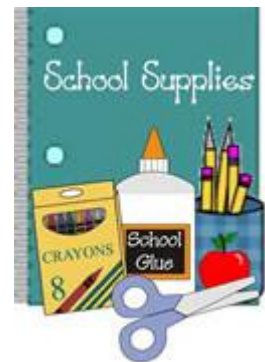
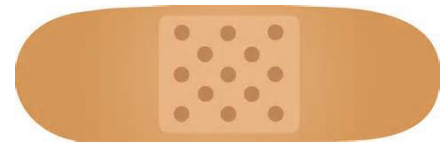


IOWAY needs items for mission trips planned for this summer.

We can collect them and if someone wants to go on a trip, we will have them ready or we will take them to the trip send-off location.

Needed are the usual items: backpacks and school supplies, health kit items like tooth brushes, tooth paste, comb, small shampoo, soap, band aids, antibiotic creams, etc. Place in the tubs by the door.

Gift cards are very appreciated—please leave them with the church office.



Bethesda Food Pantry

Easter Sunday, April 20, 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 at 7:30.

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.

"Rock Solid", St. Paul's quartet, will be the opening act. Questions? Call Karen Griffin at 232-8709.



Women of St. Paul

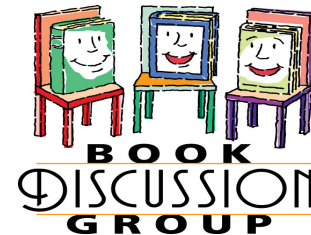
Family Service Circle Quilt Group

Family Service - mark your calendars and plan to join us for any or all of the following events during April:

April 8 - we will be going to Perry Lutheran Home to meet with the residents. We will provide a devotion, sing hymns with them, and bring cakes for an afternoon snack. Anyone is welcome to attend. A sign up sheet for cakes and attendance is posted on the bulletin board.

April 10 - We will be finishing up any last minute decorations/planning for the Easter Breakfast, as well as continuing our quilting. Bring a sack lunch and join us.

April 24 - We will be packaging quilts to take to Ankeny (April 26) for Lutheran World Relief. Bring a sack lunch. At 1 p.m., we will have our monthly meeting with a devotion and dessert.



“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.

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

Please bring ideas of books for our group to read next year.

LWML Boone Zone Spring Rally is April 5 at Memorial, Ames. Registration begins at 8:30 am. Sign up on the bulletin board if you would like to join us.

WANTED: Baskets

As I write this in March with the snow on the ground and the cold that seems to hang on, I am convinced that spring will eventually come -- and when it does, there will be garage sales. For those of you who like to shop garage sales, Family Service is asking you to watch for good deals on baskets. We give fruit baskets to St. Paul shut ins at Christmas, and our supply of baskets has been depleted. So if you run across any baskets that would work as a gift fruit basket (with or without handles, size: not too big, not too small), we would appreciate them. They can be left in the quilter's room which is on the NE corner off the fellowship hall - through the double doors and on your left.

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

April 2014 Service Roster

	Apr 6 8:30	Apr 6 11:00	Apr 13 8:30 Palm Sunday	Apr 13 11:00	Apr 20 7:30 Easter	Apr 20 10:00	Apr 27 8:30 Youth Sunday	Apr 27 11:00
Organist	Zach Heilman		Mary Nelson		Mary Nelson		Mary Nelson	
Elders	Tom Baas	Tom Henrikson →						
Lectors	Julie Coy	Larry Wiebel	John Murphy	Marlene Johnson	Linda Naeve	Angela Fritz	Youth Sunday	Youth Sunday
Acolytes	Ben Gebhart	Mary Beth Coleman			Kaitlyn Cook	Caleb Donovan		
Ushers	Phil & Alberta Voge, Mike West, Clare Tweedt	Nicole Thiede, Ed Holthaus, James Hurley, David Pietsch	→				Youth Sunday	Youth Sunday
Greeters	Dennis & Karen Griffin, Becky Jackson, Ryan & Matthew Latuska	Steve & Marlene Johnson, Irene Holthaus	→				Youth Sunday	Youth Sunday
Coffee Fellowship	Phil & Alberta Voge, Denny & Shirley Tice		Dick & Linda Peterson		Easter Breakfast		Steve & Marlene Johnson	
Altar Flowers								
Offering Counters	Paul & Adele Knop →							
Power Point	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA
Sound Board	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA
Altar Guild	Pat Thiede, Connie Buss	Gretchen Zitterich, Karen Griffin →						
Video Recorder	Jerry Schradle →							
Collate Bulletins	Elsie Bauman & Jerry →							

Lent/Holy Week Services Roster

	April 2 7:00 p.m. Wednesday Lent 5	April 9 7:00 p.m. Wednesday Lent 6	April 17 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday	April 18 7:00 p.m. Good Friday
Organist	Mary Nelson	Ellen Sander	Zach Heilman	Mary Nelson
Elder	Phil Voge	Tom Baas	Chris Hand	Phil Voge
Acolyte			Jordan Vetter	
Lector	Larry Wiebel	Steve Johnson	Nicole Gebhart	Karen Ross
Ushers	Wayne & Marilyn Hagemoser, David Pietsch, Ed Holthaus	Dean & Ardy Ulrichson, Lori & Donovan Jenks	Denny Tice, Steve Vollstedt, Inez Smith, Nick Schieffer	Larry & Nancy Wiebel, Eric Phipps, Ron Juelfs
Greeters	Barbara Folkmann, Nicole Thiede	Steve & Marlene Johnson	Jeromy & Angela Fritz	Dick & Karen Ross
Offering Counters	Paul & Adele Knop	Paul & Adele Knop	Denny & Shirley Tice	Tom & Cindy Baas
Power Point	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA
Sound-board	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA
Collate bulletins	Elsie Bauman & Jerry Schradle	Elsie Bauman & Jerry Schradle	Elsie Bauman & Jerry Schradle	Elsie Bauman & Jerry Schradle

Figure it out!!

Only 5% of Stanford University graduates figured it out.

Can you answer all seven of the following questions with the same word?

1. The word has seven letters...
2. Preceded God...
3. Greater than God...
4. More evil than the devil...
5. All poor people have it...
6. Wealthy people need it...
7. If you eat it, you will die...

Did you figure it out? Come to the St. Paul office for a prize if you did.

