

# St. Paul Epistle—March 2015

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## A Letter from Your Pastor

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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.

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 Lenten theme is "The Crucified King." We reflect upon the amazing truth that the King of all creation willingly entered into His creation to be taunted, tormented and tortured by those He created so that He might die and rise for us, to win us back from sin and Satan and make us His new creation.

The love in Jesus' heart moved Jesus to willingly endure His suffering, so that our lives might have the blessing of joy that comes from knowing we have been forgiven. 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 around 45 minutes in length--and are preceded by spectacular 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. "Glory be to Jesus, who in bitter pains, poured for me the lifeblood from His sacred veins."

In Christ, the King who suffered to save His subjects,

Pastor Jenks



## *Worship Services at St. Paul Lutheran Church*

***Sunday, March 1***

*Holy Communion*

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

***Wednesday, March 4***

*Lenten service 3*

*7:00 p.m.*

***Sunday, March 8***

*Loyalty Sunday*

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

***Wednesday, March 11***

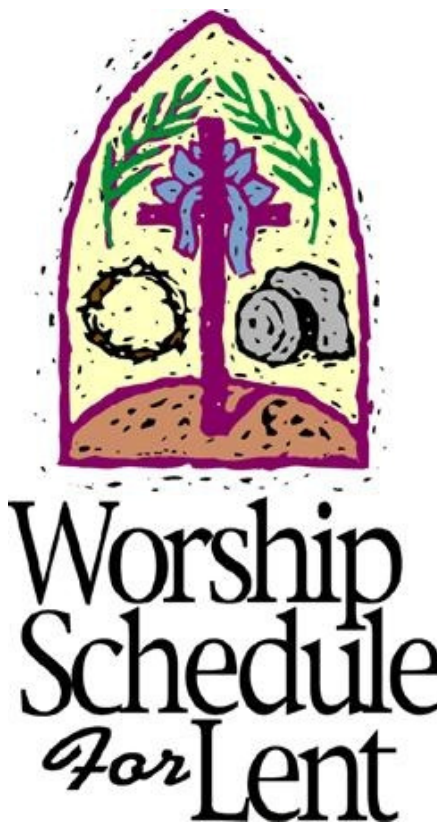
*Lenten service 4*

*7:00 p.m.*

***Sunday, March 15***

*Holy Communion*

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



***Wednesday, March 18***

*Lenten service 5*

*7:00 p.m.*

***Sunday, March 22***

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

***Wednesday, March 25***

*Lenten service 6*

*7:00 p.m.*

***Sunday, March 29***

*Palm Sunday*

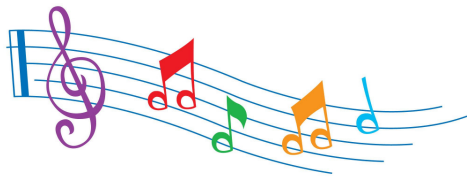
*Holy Communion*

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

**Nominating Committee:** It is that time of the year to begin the process of selecting our officers and board positions for the 2015-2016 church year. All members should prayerfully consider serving the Lord in the upcoming year. The time and talent mailing that we have received provides a convenient opportunity to indicate your desire to serve the Lord in 2015-2016. The nominating committee will review the time and talent findings and contact you regarding your area of interest.

All positions are very important in the work of the Lord at St. Paul but this year in addition to the regular positions we will need a treasurer. After five years of faithful service to the Lord as treasurer, Dean Ulrichson is stepping down. If you want to discuss the duties of any of the positions, including treasurer, contact one of the nominating co-chairs, Steve Vollstedt or Paul Knop.

**Sunday March 22 during our worship services the Parish Choir will present a new cantata. *"No Stone Could Hold Him"*** is a spirited witness to the ministry, passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus, the Rock of our Salvation. This powerful work is filled with scripture-based images of Jesus as "A Rock in a Weary Land," even when



tempted by Satan to "turn these stones to food;" as the Solid Rock on which we stand through "Winds of Change" and "Shifting Sand;" as Jerusalem's triumphant King who commands the rocks to keep silent; as the Cornerstone of our faith, betrayed and crucified; and as the risen Savior whom no stone could hold in the tomb.



### Call Update from Pastor

In the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, a vacant congregation (one without a pastor) will seek God's guidance regarding who might be the Lord's choice for the next pastor for that ministry. Following self-study, prayer and a congregational meeting, a vacant congregation will issue a "call" to the pastor the church believes God desires to serve there. A pastor in our Synod can receive an official "call" like this to another congregation at any time. Unlike the way in which a job generally works, where you usually apply for the position, the pastor does not apply for the pastorate. The Lord, through the congregation, seeks the pastor.

Most of you know that in late January I received an official call to serve as pastor at Canoga Park Lutheran Church in Canoga Park, California. Over the next number of weeks I sought God's guidance and engaged in prayer regarding where He would have me serve Him in ministry. Likewise, the members of our church and of Canoga Park Lutheran Church prayed for me. Ultimately, we all prayed that God's will would be done.

Sunday, February 15, I announced at both worship services that God led me to decline the call to Canoga Park Lutheran Church. God reaffirmed for me the call I have at St. Paul. Through this process I sensed that Jesus has more for me yet to do at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Ames. Jesus has more for all of us to do! Will you be a part of His mission and work together as we serve our Savior?

We are embarking on the implementation of a 10-year vision for our congregation. This vision includes such ideas as expanding our preschool, engaging in more Gospel outreach in the community, enhancing our ministry to families with children and youth, and much more. It is important that we all use our gifts to serve Christ in our church, which is ultimately His church. I pray you will be as involved as you possibly can! May God continue to bless us as together we proclaim the good news of Jesus.

Your partner in Christ's service,  
Pastor Jenks

**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 5 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](mailto:gzitterich@mchsi.com) or sign up on the bulletin board in the narthex. Your assignments will be posted by Maundy Thursday. If you can assist in organizing the procession this year please notify Gretchen as she will not be here for Easter. Thank you.



Calling all egg crackers.....it's that time again!!! Our women (of the Word!) are hosting our Easter breakfast and we need people to help us prepare for this St. Paul tradition. A sign up sheet will be available on Sunday, March 1st. Be the first to sign up. There is no age limit, skill level, or long term commitment, BUT there is an opportunity for everyone at St. Paul to be a part of the great tradition.

## Education News

### Our Children Need YOU!

1. 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 ½ 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.



2. It's time to be thinking about VBS. If you are willing to help with it, please see one of the Board of Education members (Cindy Baas, Thomas Wilson, Breanna Wetzler, Brenda Dryer, Pat Thiede, or Steve Wilcken). Dates have not been confirmed yet but will be soon.

Thank you, Board of Education



# Youth News



## National Youth Gathering Update

Greetings from the youth participants of the National Youth Gathering! Can we ever say Thank You! enough times? No, we don't think we can! So here is another HUGE "Thank you" to all of the wonderful members of the St. Paul Congregation for their support in our recent fundraising. We had an awesome BRAX Cups, Believe, and Candy Bar sales this past fall which raised over \$1000.00! And who could forget the Advent Dinner where the youth served up a new adventure with the Potato and Hot Dog Bar. Our Advent dinner netted \$154.

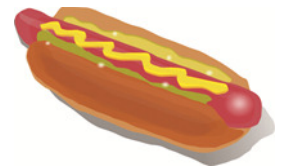
This past Super Bowl might not have given everyone a lot to cheer about, but the SP/NYG group was all cheers for the Super Bowl Subs and Bake Sale! With the help of Fareway and Hy-Vee we were able to cover the cost of the subs with donations and complete our sales with roughly \$600! Way to go team St. Paul!

Hopefully you weren't left out of the great opportunity to purchase one of the Papa Murphy's Discount Cards! For only \$5 you get a \$27 value in discounts! You might still have time – contact one of our youth participants to get one today!



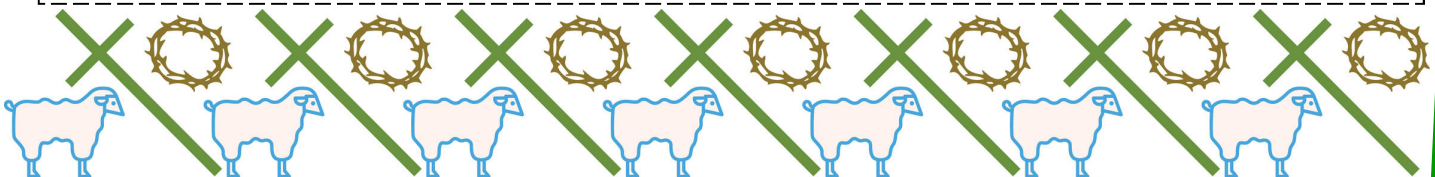
## Back by popular demand ----- it's Mr. Potato Head and Slinky Dog!

No, not really, but the SP/NYG group will be serving up the Potato and Hot Dog Bar once again for their Lenten Dinner on Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>. We hope to see everyone there to share in this fantastic fellowship and great food!



We have more activities and fundraising to come, but most importantly we are able to help the youth grow in their faith as they prepare to embark on a quest for fellowship with youth from around the country! The experiences that they will receive from their time in New Orleans will be unforgettable and will be memories to last a life time. And with your help, support and prayers we are able to make this a reality for all of them! Thank you so much for your support of the SP/NYG!

**Adventureland** Save the dates of April 25-26 and May 2-3 to join us at Adventureland! Tickets are \$20 each. MORE INFORMATION will be announced soon.



# Youth News

## Youth Calendar

March: No LYF events in March due to Lenten Services

April: Youth Sunday is April 26 (both services) -look for future announcements.

May: Youth picnic & games May 13

## Youth Sunday April 26

**This is your time to let God's light shine through you!**

Youth Sunday:

- Allows students to glorify God by using their talents.
- It helps students know they are a part of the church through this leadership.

It provides an opportunity for the congregation to experience another kind of "profession of faith".

We will be needing all available youth to participate in the special Youth Sunday on April 26. This is a Sunday when the youth are in charge of both church services. We need youth to greet members, serve as ushers, do special readings, deliver the children's message, give faith testimonials or a mini sermon, sing or play in the music ensemble. If you have ideas or something special you would like to do or share as part of this Sunday, please contact Wayne Hagemoser or Carla Murphy ASAP. Please look for future notes and announcements about practices via the bulletin and emails.

## Now is the time to think about summer camps!!

**AT CAMP OKOBOJI THEY HAVE YOUTH CAMPS FOR ALL AGES!**

Hey youth – did you know the Board of Youth can help assist you with registration fees to attend summer camps at Camp Okoboji?

This year Camp Okoboji is celebrating it's 75th year and you can be a part of it! Check out the list of camps below with even more on the camp website at [www.campokoboji.org](http://www.campokoboji.org).



**Girls' Volleyball Camp – June 7-13.** For Girls who completed 4th-8th grade. Cost: \$325. At Volleyball Camp you will be coached by trained professionals based out of Wichita KS who will bring campers to a new skill level.

**Girls Basketball Camp - June 7-13.** For girls who have completed 4th-12th grade. Cost:\$325. At Okoboji Girls' Basketball Camp, professional coaches teach basketball handling and drills to meet the skill levels of the different age groups.

**Jr High Week - July 5 – 11.** For youth completing 6th-8th grades. Cost: \$310. Meet new friends as you engage in Bible study, crafts, music, and recreation with the return of archery, 9 square and gaga ball. Junior High Week is led by Professional Church Workers who have a love for 6th-8th grade ministry.

**Concordia Cub Week - July 12 -18.** Week-long camp designed for children who have completed 3rd-6th grades. Cost: \$330. Campers enjoy, games, crafts, Bible studies and night devotions by the lake. Events returning will include archery, canoeing, gaga pit, ultimate Frisbee, 4-way soccer, and cabin challenges.

**Youth Week - July 19 -25.** Youth Week is a Christ-centered week for 8th-12th graders who engage in sports, music, a topic relating to present day life situations, and faith building events which develop character and positive relationships and more! Cost: \$320.

NOTE: All camps have deadlines for registrations so check out the website for more details. If you need help with fees, just write a letter of request to the St. Paul Board of Youth and we will contact you with how we can help. It's that easy!

# Human Care News

## March Good Neighbor News

The last Good Neighbor committee meeting was held on January 20 at Good Neighbor of Story County. For the first six months of the current fiscal year, Good Neighbor has provided a total of 202 households with rent and/or utility assistance, 2,440 Healthy Food vouchers to 610 households and 114 gas vouchers. Director Mike Fritz submitted a request for a 2.5% increase from United Way of Story County and the City of Ames in order to support additions to the Healthy Food Voucher and Rent/Utility Assistance programs but has not heard back from them yet.

The annual fundraiser, "Irish Fest," will be held on March 28 at Dublin Bay. The afternoon will include a silent auction and the music of "Holy Ground" from Minneapolis. The month of April is "Good Neighbor Month." During the month several write ups will be printed in weekly bulletins. The tentative meeting of Good Neighbor will be on February 17 at First Christian Church.

Submitted by Steve J. Hanlin; representative to Good Neighbor for First United Methodist Church.

## You Are Invited

On Sunday March 1<sup>st</sup>, Northminster Presbyterian Church, located at 1416 20<sup>th</sup> St. in Ames, will be holding its annual Gospel Fest concert to benefit Good Neighbor Emergency Assistance, Inc. (Good Neighbor). The event showcases talent from within the church, as well as community musical groups. This is an opportunity for you and your family to enjoy a wide variety of musical talent that will have you leaving with a smile on your face. The concert will begin at 2:00 p.m. and is scheduled to conclude at 3:30 p.m. A free will donation will be taken during the concert to support Good Neighbor in its efforts to provide emergency rent, utility, food, and transportation to our neighbors in need throughout Story County. We hope you'll join us on the 1<sup>st</sup>!



## Bethesda Food Pantry

**Sunday, March 15th, 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."



# Stewardship News

People often 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.*



## Treasures



When stewardship is discussed in church, the three T's mentioned are Time, Talent, and Treasures. 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.

What would it look like to give God 10% of our time? In a 24-hour day, that adds up to almost two and a half hours of time given directly to God. The time could be spent for mental prayer, spiritual reading, music, helping those in need, or volunteering for church responsibilities/activities. God does not just want our money – he wants our hearts. He wants us to show Him that we are in love with Him, and that He is in first place. Tithing of our treasures, apart from giving God our talent, and perhaps more valuable, our time, is empty, like the husband/father who gives his family lavish gifts but never spends time with them. What amount of the day do you currently give to God? How do you show Him that you love Him above all things? What are some ways in which you might be able to share more of your gifts (talents) with the Church?

You have received a church mailing with the materials for Time & Talent Sunday on March 1<sup>st</sup> and Loyalty Sunday on March 8<sup>th</sup>. Please ask God in prayer, as individuals and as a family, for his guidance in making your choices and financial pledge in thanks and praise to Him.

St. Paul Stewardship Board





# Human Care News

## *Need Help?*

**Congregational Care Cards** are now available and have been placed in the pews. If you or someone you know from the congregation needs meals provided due to illness or surgery, or if someone needs a visit or transportation provided, please fill out the card in the pew rack, place it in the offering plate, and either an elder or Human Care Board member will take action to help out. Thank you!

**Below is a card you can fill out and mail to the church if you have not been able to pick one up here at church.**

### CONGREGATIONAL CARE CARD

Do you or someone you know need assistance (e.g. meals, rides, etc.)?  
Please place this card in the offering plate or give to an elder.

Name of person \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

For how long of a duration? \_\_\_\_\_

Type of assistance needed/Any additional pertinent information?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



## Women of St. Paul

### Family Service Circle Meetings in March



#### FAMILY SERVICE CIRCLE:

Family Service will meet at 10 a.m. on Thursday, March 12th and March 26th. As time permits, our activities will include preparing table decorations for the Easter breakfast, making lap robes for Ames nursing home patients, and sewing quilts for Lutheran World Relief. We hope you can join us -- bring a sack lunch. On the 26th, we will have our monthly meeting beginning at 1 p.m. On both days we will wrap up our activities by 2 p.m.

**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”

Our next meeting will be **April 16th** at the home of Shirley Tice to discuss “*The Red Tent*” By Anita Diamant. We will also be choosing the books we will discuss for the coming year. Suggestions are most welcome.

The Barnes and Noble description of *The Red Tent* says: “Her name is Dinah. In the Bible, her life is only hinted at in a brief and violent detour within the more familiar chapters of the Book of Genesis. In *The Red Tent*, Anita Diamant brings this fascinating biblical character to vivid life. Told in Dinah’s voice, the novel reveals the traditions and turmoils of ancient womanhood—the world of the red tent. It begins with the story of Dinah’s mothers—Leah, Rachel, Zilpah, and Bilhah—the four wives of Jacob. They love Dinah and give her gifts that sustain her through a hard-working youth, a calling to midwifery, and a new home in a foreign land. Dinah’s story reaches out from a remarkable period of early history and creates an intimate connection with the past.”



# March 2015 Service Roster

	<b>Mar 1 8:30</b>	<b>Mar 1 11:00</b>	<b>Mar 8 8:30</b>	<b>Mar 8 11:00</b>	<b>Mar 15 8:30</b>	<b>Mar 15 11:00</b>	<b>Mar 22 8:30</b>	<b>Mar 22 11:00</b>	<b>Mar 29 8:30</b>	<b>Mar 29 11:00</b>
Organist	Mary Nelson		Praise Team		Mary Nelson		Mary Nelson		Mary Nelson	
Elders	Paul Knop	Tom Henriksen →								
Lectors	Becky Jackson	Doug Litwiller	Connie Hand	Doug Litwiller	Connie Hand	Doug Litwiller	Connie Hand	Doug Litwiller	Connie Hand	Doug Litwiller
Acolytes	Morgan Tupper	Jordan Vetter			Kaitlyn Cook	Ben Gebhart			Alex Highby	Kaitlin Wegner
Ushers	Mark & Janelle Swenson, John Murphy, Clare Tweedt	Scott & Brenda Dryer, Donovan Jenks, Ron Coy →								
Greeters	Tom & Beth Henriksen, Katie Friedrich	Wanda Schulte, Doug & Jill Litwiller →								
Coffee Fellowship	Tanny Latuska, Jon & Connie Buss									
Altar Flowers	Jon & Connie Buss								Palms	
Offering Counters	Greg & Nicole Gebhart	→								
Power Point	Greg Van-Nostrand	Julie Coy →								
Sound Board	Thomas Wilson	Tom Peter	Tom Peter		Thomas Wilson		Thomas Wilson		Thomas Wilson	
Altar Guild	Judy Peter, Karen Griffin,	Geri Schulz, Connie Buss →								
Video Recorder	Jerry Schradle	→								
Collate Bulletins	Reiny & Katie Friedrich	→								

# Lent Services Roster

	<b>Mar 4</b> <b>7:00 p.m.</b> <b>Wednesday</b> <b>Lent 3</b>	<b>Mar 11</b> <b>7:00 p.m.</b> <b>Wednesday</b> <b>Lent 4</b>	<b>Mar 18</b> <b>7:00 p.m.</b> <b>Wednesday</b> <b>Lent 5</b>	<b>Mar 25</b> <b>7:00 p.m.</b> <b>Wednesday</b> <b>Lent 6</b>	<b>Apr 2</b> <b>7:00 p.m.</b> <b>Maundy Thurs-</b> <b>day</b>	<b>Apr 3</b> <b>7:00 p.m.</b> <b>Good Friday</b>
Organist	Mary Nelson	Mary Nelson	Mary Nelson	Mary Nelson	Mary Nelson	Mary Nelson
Elder	Jeff Cook	Phil Voge	Brad Tibben	Steve Johnson	Paul Knop	Tom Baas
Acolyte					Jaden Ask	
Lector	Chris Hand	John Murphy	Cindy Baas	Larry Wiebel	Reiny Friedrich	Tanny Latuska
Ushers	Chris & Connie Hand, Scott & Brenda Dryer	Jerry Schradle, John Murphy, Thelma Voetberg, Vickie Roach	Tom & Cindy Baas, Harry & Pam Mundt	Larry & Nancy Wiebel, Denny & Shirley Tice	Reiny & Maureen Friedrich, Steve & Marlene Johnson	Greg & Ben Gebhart, Wayne & Marilyn Hagemoser
Greeters	Dick & Linda Peterson, Gretchen Zitterich	Irene Holthaus, Katie Friedrich	Keith & Carol Folkmann, Dean & Ardy Ulrichson	Steve & Carol Vollstedt, Ron & Becky Juelfs	Dick & Karen Ross, Caitlyn Chellew	Geri Schulz, Connie Buss
Offering Counters	Greg & Nicole Gebhart	Tom & Judy Peter	Tom & Judy Peter	Tom & Judy Peter	Tom & Cindy Baas	Tom & Cindy Baas
Power Point	Doug Litwiller	Julie Coy	Judy Peter	Denny Ingwersen	Julie Coy	Cindy Baas
Sound-board	John Murphy	Greg VanNostrand	Tom Peter	Denny Ingwersen	Thomas Wilson	Tom Baas
Collate bulletins	Friedrichs	Friedrichs	Friedrichs	Friedrichs	Jerry Schradle & Elsie Baumann	Jerry Schradle & Elsie Baumann

