

St. Paul Epistle - November 2015

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Worship Schedule, Bible Study	2
Current News Items	2-3
Youth	4-5
Education	6
Stewardship	7
Human Care	8
Treasurer News	9
Preschool News	10
WOSP/LWML News	11-12
Birthdays & Anniversaries & Address Changes	13
Spotlight	14
Service Roster	15
BOD Minutes	16-17

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 Letter from Your Pastor

There's a saying that goes like this: The easiest way to be joyful is to count your blessings instead of your problems. Although we all have hardships in life, we have so many more blessings for which we can be grateful. This month especially, we focus our attention on being thankful. Most, if not all of us, will celebrate a Thanksgiving feast in our homes. Hopefully most, if not all of us, will also gather here in God's house to lift our praises to the Lord for His manifold blessings! All members and friends are invited to join us in giving God thanks at our Thanksgiving service of worship at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 25. Come, you thankful people, come! As Christians, we should be *"always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ"* (Ephesians 5:20). *"O give thanks unto the Lord for He is good, for His mercy endures forever!"* (Psalm 136:1)



With a grateful heart to God,
Pastor Jenks

First Sunday in Advent on November 29 – one service only at 10 a.m.

Sunday, November 29, is the first Sunday in Advent. This year it is also the Sunday of Thanksgiving week-end, when many of our members are traveling. This means that on November 29 we will have only one worship service here at St. Paul at 10 a.m. This will allow all of us (who are here locally that week-end) to gather together to begin the special season of contemplation and preparation for the celebration of the birth of our Savior! Advent has historically been a season for reflection, repentance and preparation, looking ahead to our Lord's Advent. Come worship with us this Advent season!



Worship Services at St. Paul Lutheran Church

Sunday, November 1

Holy Communion

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

Sunday, November 8

HOPE Gift Market

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

Sunday, November 15

Holy Communion

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.



Sunday, November 22

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

Wednesday, November 22

Thanksgiving Eve

7:00 p.m.

Sunday, November 29

First Sunday in Advent

Holy Communion

Only one service

10:00 a.m.

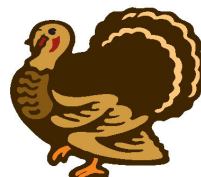
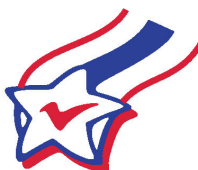
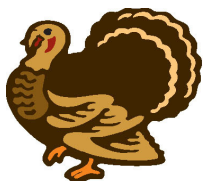
New Member Welcome will be on Sunday, November 1st, at both services. Everyone is invited to a reception for them at 9:45 am. in the Fellowship Hall. Come and meet them and give them a warm welcome.



The Iowa Public Television will be airing a PBS program titled ***Debt of Honor: Disabled Veterans in American History*** on November 10. It is a powerful documentary from filmmaker Ric Burns. Go to this link to learn more about it: <http://www.pbs.org/veterans/stories-of-service/stream-tv/a-to-z/debt-of-honor/>



Check your guide for the time in your area.



Sunday November 15 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.



If you are leaving town for the winter, please let the office know your winter address so we can send the Epistle and other mailings to you.



ATTENTION THRIVENT MEMBERS: The Board of Directors has voted to allow the designation of Thrivent Choice Dollars by individual members of St. Paul to specific areas or causes that they want to support. The process will take two steps. First, you will need to direct your Choice Dollars to St. Paul Lutheran Church by calling Thrivent at 1-800-847-4836, follow the prompts for Choice Dollars, using your birthday or Thrivent number for verification. Secondly, you will need to contact Jerry Schradle with the amount and the specific cause that you want your Choice Dollars to be designated for at St. Paul. Choice Dollars received by St. Paul not designated go into the Fund Item administered by the BOD. Any Questions may be directed to Thrivent Advocates Bob Folkmann, Dennis Griffin, or Tom Peter.

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If the leaves on the church property accept their eventual fate and "fall", we will be having a clean-up of said leaves on **November 7**. Many hands and rakes will allow all of us to head home to do our own yards by noon. We will start at 8 A.M. There are also some inside jobs to do if leaves aren't your thing. If the trees aren't ready by the 7th, you will be notified of an alternate date.

Youth News

Let's get creative and have fun with cookies!

On November 11 following midweek, we will have a meal provided by some youth parents and then we will decorate cookies and deliver them to shut-ins and other members.

If you know of someone in our congregation who would like some cookies or a visit from our youth, please contact Carla Murphy or the church office so we know how many cookies to make and plan our delivery visits.

* **Youth Parents:** We need 1-2 families to provide the meal for the youth before we do our cookies. The meal (no pizza please) should be ready to serve around 5:30pm after youth are done with midweek. Please contact Carla Murphy with questions or to sign up.



Save the Date!

- Our December event will be participating in the Sunday School Christmas Service at 11am on Dec. 13. Please look for more info about Christmas practices from the Board of Education.
- Also, we will participate in Christmas Caroling with the congregation if the church decides to do that this year.

High School Youth

We need your input! We would like to plan some activities YOU want to do –some suggestions have been a lock-in, bowling and an ISU sports event. If you have more ideas, please contact Carla Murphy (451-2800) or Thomas Wilson (570-9088).

Reminder– Youth Sunday date changed

Please mark your calendars now for Youth Sunday on April 10, 2016. This date has been changed from April 24. Youth will serve as greeters, ushers, readers, music and will give the message. It takes a lot of students to make this service special and uplifting for all. More info will be out as the date gets closer, but plan now to serve and be a part of it all!



Youth News

YOUTH HAD FUN at Orchard

We had 14 youth and 4 adults attend our outing to the apple orchard on October 11. Youth had fun burying each other in the corn pool, jumping on the giant jumping pillow, finding their way through the corn maze taking a hay ride and more! Afterward many enjoyed various types of apple snacks and apple slushies in the farm store.



Education News

Mark Your Calendars....

Sunday School Christmas Service Practice

Saturday, December 5th / 9:00 – 11:00 / Grades 2 – High School

Saturday, December 12th / 9:00 – 11:00 / Grades 2 – High School
10:00 – 11:00 / Preschool – Grade 1

Sunday, December 13th / 9:45 – 10:45 / Grades 3 – High School to run through parts & music

Service: December 13th – 11:00 service

Fall Sunday School Mission Offerings

This fall, the Sunday School mission offerings will go to support the Lutheran Heritage Foundation's **PEOPLE NEEDING GOD – sharing the Gospel with the kids of Papua New Guinea**. They have translated a Bible Studies book as well as the Catechism for children of PNG. For \$5 a book can be shared with a child of PNG. We have targeted a goal of \$575, which is enough to match our roster of 115 kids from 3 year olds through 12th grade! We will collect offerings through the end of the year.



This is an aggressive goal – we discussed how children at St. Paul are provided with God's Word as 3 year olds, 3rd graders, and 7th graders. This is our opportunity to support others in the same way.



Stewardship News

From the Bible we can get the recipe for “Christian Stewardship”!

Colossians 3:23-24

Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.

Acts 20:28

Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood.

1 Peter 4:10-11

As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Proverbs 3:5-8

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord, and turn away from evil. It will be healing to your flesh and refreshment to your bones.

The “Christian Stewardship” recipe is the combination of these ingredients:

SERVICE TO GOD + SERVICE TO CHURCH + SERVICE TO OTHERS + COMMITMENT



St. Paul Stewardship Team



Human Care News

Thanksgiving Baskets of Plenty

Sunday, November 22, is the Thanksgiving Food In-Gathering for Bethesda Community Food Pantry. Cash donations and food items will be placed on the altar. Suggested food items: food which can be sent home with children for the Thanksgiving and Christmas breaks. Many children only have the meal they get at school and during breaks they may not have anything. Cash donations allow the food pantry to purchase what is needed at a greatly reduced cost.



COME ONE, COME ALL to the St. Paul Lutheran HOPE Gift Market on Sunday, November 8th! We have new charities lined up, as well as some of your favorites. You can do your shopping after first service and before second service while enjoying a cup of coffee and baked treats, so come check it out! (The order form is included.)



CONVERSATIONAL DINNERS

November 8th is our next Conversational Dinners....our theme for the month is "Praise and Patriotism" a fitting theme for this time of year.

Our season continues...but first, a huge thank you to Dennis and Shirley Tice, David and Judy Charlson, and Joyce and Dennis Dobberke for hosting our October dinner and to everyone who participated In our 2nd Annual Pumpkin Carving/Decorating Contest. Once again we had some great pumpkins to vote for.



Conversational Dinners are for any adult attending St. Paul, so come and join us for an evening of great food, and interesting conversations, a great chance to get to know people of St. Paul in a social setting. If you would like to host on November 8th, please contact Drue and Ellen Sander at druellen@hotmail.com or 292-3574.

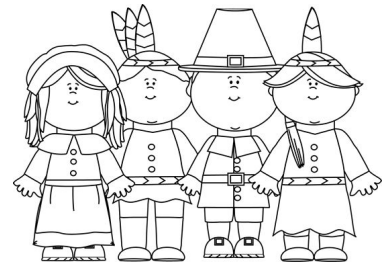
Good Neighbor Emergency Assistance Choral Concert Please mark your calendars and be sure to join us for a beautiful Choral Concert benefit on November 8 at 2:00 p.m. at (Collegiate Presbyterian Church, 159 N. Sheridan Ave). Several choirs from area congregations will be sharing their music. Come, listen, and be uplifted.





St. Paul Lutheran Preschool

November News 2015



GRANDPARENTS DAY



*"Children's children are
a crown to the aged,
and parents are the
pride of their children."*

Proverbs 17:6

On November 23rd and
24th the Lamb and Lion

Classes are going to invite their Grandparents to come to preschool. We will have some extra special activities for them to participate in with their grandchildren. The Lamb Class is going to invite their grandparents to end their time together by attending preschool chapel. We look forward to the special time together!

Mon/Tues Lamb Class: Monday, November 23rd
from 9:00 am - 10:30 am

Tues/Fri Lamb Class: Tuesday, November 24th
from 9:00 am - 10:30 am

Lion Class: Tuesday, November 24th
from 10:45 am - 11:45 am

November Dates to Remember

- November 2-4—Parent-Teacher Conferences
- November 5-6—No School
- November 12-13—Smyles Storytime
- November 17—Fieldtrip to HyVee
- November 19—Fieldtrip to Ge-Angelo's
- November 23-24—Grandparent's Day
- November 26-27—Thanksgiving Break



Special Ways to Give to St. Paul Lutheran Pre- school



- 1) Thrivent Choice Dollars—
Thrivent Financial members can become eligible to give through Thrivent Choice. With Thrivent Choice, you can select where some of Thrivent Financial's charitable outreach funds go. St. Paul Lutheran Preschool is an organization that qualifies to accept this gift. Through these gifts we purchase Bibles and weekly Bible take home sheets to give to the preschoolers.
- 2) United Way of Story County— If United Way runs the campaign in your company you can fill out a United Way Donation form. On the form there is an option to choose a specific 503(c) that you want to direct your donation to go to. St. Paul Lutheran Preschool qualifies for that donation.
- 3) Talents— Do you have a talent, job, or hobby that you can share with the preschoolers? If so we would enjoy having you come to the preschool and share that gift with us. What do preschoolers like to learn about? Everything! They would enjoy learning about plants, pets, exercise, fish, numbers, music, nature, food, science, books, art, fishing, sports, camping, experiments, cooking, painting, running...etc. Please contact Lori Jenks to set a time to come visit the preschoolers at 233-1914 or education@saintpaulames.org.

Women of St. Paul

Family Service Quilting Group

CHANGE OF DATES:

Our quilting schedule will change during November because of Thanksgiving. We will quilt on Thursday, November 12 and again on the 3rd Thursday, November 19. See the details below.

November 12th: We will start at 10 a.m. We will break for lunch at noon, then continue quilting until 2 p.m.

November 19th: We will begin quilting at 10 a.m. and break for lunch around noon. At 1 p.m., we will have our monthly devotion, meeting, and dessert. It will be great if you can join us -- bring a sack lunch for our noon break.

Guests are always welcome! No special skills are necessary. Hope to see you there.

See the picture below of our quilts.

Our quilts are boxed up and ready to go. They were taken to the new Orphan Grain Train site at Clemons, IA by Marilyn Hagemoser on Oct. 17th.



A special thank you to all who helped make our LWML Sunday a success!

Back row: Denny Tice, Lori Jenks, Connie Lastine, Julie Coy, Lisa Wilson, Shirley Tice, Judi Charlson, and Vickie Roach.

Front row: JoLyn Ask, Lindsay Roach, Dick Peterson, Linda Peterson, Tanny Latuska, and Marilyn Hagemoser. Not pictured: Sandy VanNostrand.

Women of St. Paul

LWML Mite Update:

National- (as of 9/30/15)

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

Amount Received: \$404,400.13

District- (as of 9/18/15)

Mission Goal for 2014-2016 Biennium:
\$139,844.06

Grants still to be paid= \$33,464



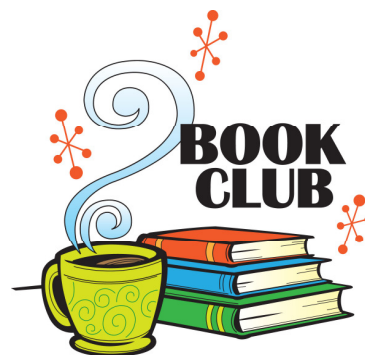
Do you know what is going on in the Iowa West District of the LWML?

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. We will meet on a Thursday, Nov 12th at Karen Griffin's home at 7 p.m. We are discussing *Women of Christmas* by Liz Curtis Higgs. The Barnes and Noble description reads: **“God Reached Down from Heaven with the Best Gift of All.** A sacred season is about to unfold for three women whose hearts belong to God. Elizabeth is barren, yet her trust in God remains fertile. Mary is betrothed in marriage, yet she is willing to bear God's Son. Anna is a widow full of years, yet she waits patiently, prayerfully for the Messiah to appear in the temple courts. Following in their footsteps, you too can prepare for the Savior to enter your heart, your mind, and your life in a vibrant, new way. Best-selling author Liz Curtis Higgs explores the biblical stories of Elizabeth, Mary, and Anna, unwrapping each verse with tender care and introducing you afresh to The Women of Christmas.”



Date	Hostess	Book
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

November 2015 Service Roster

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