

APRIL 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:
Every Sunday is special, because every time we are in the Lord's house we are strengthened through God's Word and Sacrament. Every time we are in God's house, we hear the good news of forgiveness through Jesus pronounced. However, this month in our services we have some extra special happenings. Come share these special celebrations with us!

April 3– Missions Sunday! – This Sunday we will be visited by an evangelistic missionary for Jesus, Pastor Greg Finke of Texas. Pastor Finke is the author of the respected and widely-read book "Joining Jesus

on His Mission." Pastor Finke has worked tirelessly to encourage Christians to be active in sharing Jesus in their daily lives. Come hear more about the exciting mission right in our own backward. Pastor Finke will speak at Bible study and preach at both services. *"Repentance and forgiveness of sins will be*



preached in His name to all nations!" (Luke 24:47).

April 10 – Youth Sunday! – Once each year, our youth share their tal-

April 2016

ents by having a special service on Youth Sunday at both worship services.



As our youth use their gifts of music and speaking, the Bible's message comes to life in a special way. Come celebrate the youth of our church! *"Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity"* (1 Timothy 4:12).

In Jesus,
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

Sunday, April 3

Missions Sunday

Holy Communion

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

Sunday, April 10

Youth Sunday

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.



Sunday, April 17

Holy Communion

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

Sunday, April 24

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.



Dinner and a Movie....April 9th, 5:30pm....

This year Conversational Dinners and Women of St Paul are "teaming up" to present Dinner and a Movie. Our feature film is "Woodhaven", the true story of Anthony (Tony) Davis and the Woodhaven High School Football team. The film is set in Birmingham, Alabama, in the early 1970's when schools were being desegregated, tempers were flaring and emotions ran high. One man, using God's message of love and unity in the face of adversity, brings this team together to grow their faith in God and in each other. You will cheer, be angry, maybe shed a tear and see how The Bible speaks to us all, even on a football field. The "Team Chef", Duane Faas, is already busy planning a wonderful tailgate feast that you won't want to miss. A sign up sheet is posted on the bulletin board...this would be a great family movie....so sign up now, enjoy some great food and an All American movie.



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.





EASTER BREAKFAST THANK YOU!!!! To everyone who cracked eggs, cooked eggs, decorated, baked or shopped, we at St. Paul thank you. When many hands work together, the task not only becomes easy, it is lots of fun. (Those egg crackers are just one "yoke" after another).

Again this year we had so many people take part in making it a special morning at St. Paul, it just seems to get better every year.

A very special thank you to Phil and Alberta Voge for donating the sausage and the ham, and to Lisa and Thomas Wilson and our youth for being our servers. The freewill offering will help support their trip to the 2016 Youth Gathering this summer.

Adopt A Garden

It may not feel like gardening time yet, but we got the letter from the City of Ames Park and Recreation Department regarding their "Adopt a Garden".

The St. Paul Lutheran Church garden is located at Brookside Park right next to the swinging bridge on the west side.

During the past few years, Tom and Judy Peter have signed up to take the lead on getting a sign-up sheet for volunteers to help clean up the garden in the spring and volunteers to assist with planting and mulching the garden. They ordered the flowers from Holub's Greenhouse who donates all the flowers for the "Adopt a Garden" and the City donates the

mulch and does all the watering.

After the garden is planted, we are responsible for cleaning-up branches and weeding the garden. There are now a total of 48 beautiful flower gardens throughout the Ames Park System. The City has a sign at each garden for who has volunteers to adopt it.

Tom and Judy are wondering if there would be an individual or couple or family, that would like to take the lead on heading up the St. Paul Lutheran Church "Adopt a Garden"

We would be willing to assist and help with what we have done in the past years. We have until

April 4th to let the City know if we will be participating this summer.

It is a very worthwhile project and the people who visit Brookside Park really enjoy the beautiful gardens.

Please contact Tom or Judy at 450-4039 or talk to them at church if you would be willing to take over this very rewarding program.

Serving Christ with Joy,

Tom
and
Judy
Peter

♥
Adopt
a
Garden



April Is Good Neighbor Emergency Assistance Awareness Month

Good Neighbor Emergency Assistance, Inc. (Good Neighbor) provides emergency assistance to individuals and families in need throughout Story County. St. Paul Lutheran Church is a contributing member of Good Neighbor. Since its inception in 1997, Good Neighbor has provided needed assistance and support to thousands of households throughout Story County. The agency provides rental and utility assistance in an effort to avoid homelessness and/or the disruption of needed services. Healthy Food Vouchers are given to ensure that nutritious meals are available within the home. Gas Vouchers are provided to assist with emergency transportation needs. All assistance is provided in an atmosphere of dignity, comfort and encouragement.



In FY 14 – 15, Good Neighbor provided rental and/or utility assistance to 343 households to allow them to remain in their homes with needed utility services. Over 73% of these individuals and families had incomes that were at or below 100% of the federal poverty level. These households were located in nearly every community throughout Story County, with over one third residing outside of Ames. During this same period, Good Neighbor distributed 4,636 Healthy Food Vouchers to 1,159 households, and 228 Gas Vouchers.

April is Good Neighbor Awareness Month, when the organization strives to make more people aware of the issues of poverty in Story County and the assistance Good Neighbor provides. April is an appropriate month, as the first agency office opened in April of 1997. The month will be capped off by Good Neighbor's "Wearin' and Sharin' of the Green" fundraiser being held at Dublin Bay on April 30th and featuring the Blue Moon Players band. More information will be forthcoming. Please consider sharing the work of Good Neighbor with someone you know, particularly those who may benefit from the services provided. By doing so, you will assist the agency as it continues "Offering Help and Hope In Times of Need."

For more information, contact Good Neighbor Director Michael Fritz by phone at 515-296-1449, email at gneainc@gmail.com, or visit our website: gnea.org

Easter Egg Hunt



Education and Youth

Bowling Adventures

We had 16 youth go bowling and play arcade games at Perfect Games on February 28. It was a fun day of games, sportsmanship and fellowship.



Easter Egg Hunt, March 20th



Education and Youth

Come Join Us for Youth Sunday, April 10

Youth Sunday is a special day when the youth (grades 1-12) lead both the services. They greet members and visitors at the door, usher, sing, play in the youth music ensemble, read the readings, lead the service, lead the children's message, and create bulletin covers. It's not too late- there are plenty of ways to be involved!

SHARE THE FUN of Adventureland

Let's all join in on "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.

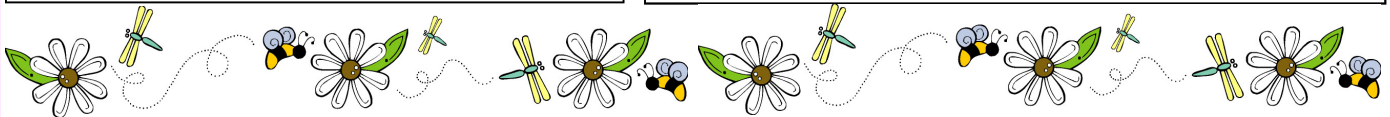


CONGRATULATIONS to a few of our youth who had talents or services recognized recently.

Kaitlyn Cook with the Nevada FFA for addressing hunger through the Food For All Project -her chapter group was awarded a major grant for over \$2,300.

Erin Murphy with the Irish Performance Dance Team- performed 7 times during spring break to shut-ins at various nursing homes and community St. Patrick's Day celebrations.

Abigail Tibben who was awarded 5th place overall Middle School Biological Division – Association for Women Geo-Scientists Award at the Western Iowa Science and Engineering Fair in Sheldon.



**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.

Summer Camp at Camp Okoboji!

Jr. High Week – July 10-16: Campers who have completed 6th-8th grades. Cost: \$310 before June 10.

Concordia Cub Week - July 17-23: For campers who have completed 3rd-6th grades. Cost: \$330 before June 10.

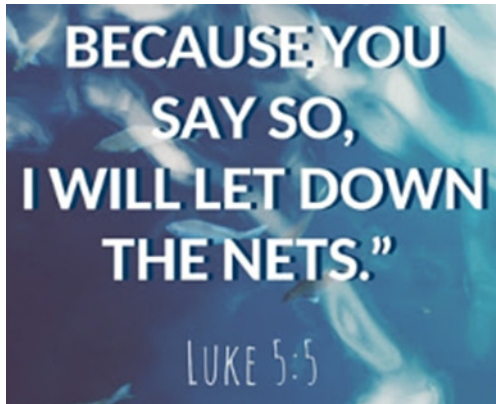
Youth Week - July 24-30: Campers who have completed 8th-12th grades. Cost: \$320 before June 24.

The Board of Youth will help finance any St. Paul youth attending any of these camps. Scholarships are also available from Iowa District West and the Camp Auxiliary. For more information, please contact Carla Murphy.



Stewardship

Obedience: Simple, But Not Easy



[Jesus] said to Simon, “Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch.” Simon answered, “Master, we’ve worked hard all night and haven’t caught anything. But because You say so, I will let down the nets.” — Luke 5:4–5

There’s no reason to think that Simon Peter’s response to Jesus was sarcastic, but you have to wonder if he was thinking, *Yeah, right. That carpenter-rabbi thinks He can tell a fisherman how to fish?* But what did he have to lose at this point? So as he squinted in the sunlight glinting off the Sea of Galilee, he flung his soaked net overboard one more time.

I’m not sure where those fish had been hiding all night, but this time they swarmed into his net as soon as it hit the water. Simon Peter had never had such a wasted night, and now he had never hauled in a catch like this, in broad daylight. What Jesus suggested wasn’t difficult or complicated; it just didn’t make any sense. Practically speaking, it seemed like a waste of time. It went against Peter’s extensive experience and intuition. Jesus gave no fresh explanation. His directions weren’t innovative or creative. Yet Simon Peter simply obeyed.

Sometimes following Jesus is simple, but that doesn’t mean it’s always easy.

Humble obedience to what God has called us to do may be as simple as making a phone call, extending an invitation, or walking across the street. Maybe it carries a greater challenge, like extending forgiveness to someone who has hurt you, or moving to a foreign mission field, or trusting Him by tithing. But when God asks us to do something that seems impractical or inconvenient — maybe especially when it does — it brings abundant reward.

Notice that God will let you voice your objections. So, if that makes you feel better, He’s okay with it.

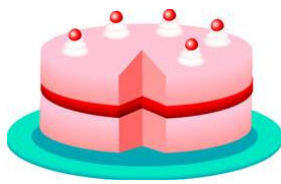
Just remember that the One telling you where to fish is the one who created the fish.

by Kyle Idleman, from [*Not a Fan Daily Devotional*](#)

Women of St. Paul & Family Service Group

Perry Lutheran Home Visit

Circle your calendar and join us on **April 12th** when we visit Perry Lutheran Home. We leave our church at 1 p.m. and are usually back by 4 p.m. If you



have never gone, our visit consists of singing songs and leading a brief devotion with/for the residents. We also

bring cakes to share with them. A sign-up sheet to attend and/or furnish a cake is on the bulletin board. Hope you can join us.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

Family Service will be quilting on April 14th and April 28th beginning



at 10 a.m. in the fellowship hall. On the 14th, we will be having a

Thrivent Action Team event. We will have new fabric to be cut into squares, sewn together, and layered with other fabric to form a quilt and be tied and stitched. There will be something for everyone -- come and join us. Just bring a sack lunch and prepare to have fun. If you have a Thrivent t-shirt, wear it, otherwise we'll provide you with one. We'll wrap up by 2 pm.

OUR NATIONAL YOUNG WOMAN'S REPRESENTATIVE, Breanna Wetzler,

will be a speaker at the Fort Dodge Zone Spring Rally on Saturday April 16th. We are asking the Women of Saint Paul to come to this rally and support Breanna! The rally will be held at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Fort Dodge Iowa (Address is 1436 21st Ave. N., Fort Dodge, IA 50501), Saturday, April 16.

Registration is from 8:30-9:00 am. The registration fee is \$7.00. Devotions start at 9:30 am. Max Phillips, President of Lutheran Family Service, will also be a speaker.

This should be a great morning and Breanna will appreciate seeing familiar faces there in support of her.

Please call me at 515-835-1935 with your reservation by Wednesday April 6th so that I can turn in a head count to the Fort Dodge District (They need head count so they know how much food etc. to plan for).

THANK YOU! Linda Peterson, President of Women of Saint Paul

THE BOONE ZONE SPRING RALLY will be held Saturday, April 9th at Christ Lutheran in Bouton. Registration is from 8:30 - 9:00. We will carpool from the church at 7:45 am.

The rally begins at 9:00 am. The registration fee is \$7.00. The speaker/program is Charlie Kiersch, LCMS Mission Overview.

The ingathering is yarn for making hats for the homeless and offerings will also go to help sponsor and decorate a room at the Perry Home.

PLEASE get your reservation - head counts in very soon. You may call me at 515-835-1935 and let me know that you plan to come. I will relay the head count numbers to Christ Lutheran. Thanks, Linda Peterson



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

Women of St. Paul

LWML Mite Update:

National- (as of 2/29/16)

Mission Goal for 2015-2017

Biennium: \$2,000,000

Amount Received: \$883,107.34

Amount Needed: \$ 1,116,892.66

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.

THE TIME IS NOW. . . . to get your Registrations filled out and sent in for the 37th Biennial LWML Iowa West District Convention, "Generations of Grace". You can find copies of the registration on the bulletin board in the back of the Fellowship Hall. If you have any questions, please ask a fellow Women's Ministry Board member or contact the office.

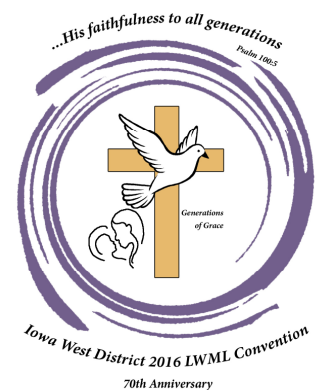
We can set up car pooling rides when time gets closer, but the registration deadline draws near very fast! **Check out the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall.**

There will be a purse auction -- so find those gently used purses for donating and then bring home a 'new-to-you' purse when you make a donation to Mites for Mission!

Sandy Van Nostrand has been selected as a YOUNG WOMEN'S REPRESENTATIVE from the Boone Zone at Okoboji Convention! A very good reason to go!

Plus we always have lots of fun Speakers and great Thanksgiving and Praise to our God for sending us our Lord and Savior!

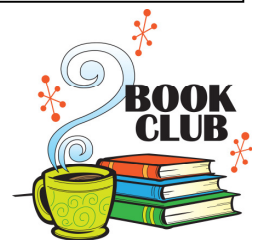
PLEASE COME AND JOIN US IN THIS MOUNTAINTOP EXPERIENCE!!!!!!



“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.”

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	Marlene Johnson	<i>The Sign Painter</i> By Davis Bunn

April 2016 Service Roster

	April 3 8:30	April 3 11:00	April 10 8:30	April 10 11:00	April 17 8:30	April 17 11:00	April 24 8:30	April 24 11:00
Organist	Zach Heilman		Ellen Sander		Mary Nelson		Praise Team	
Elders	Paul Knop	Greg Gebhart →						
Lectors	Inez Smith	Steve Johnson	Inez Smith	Steve Johnson	Karen Ross	Steve Johnson	Karen Ross	Steve Johnson
Acolytes	Morgan Tupper	Katie Barnes			Hannah Fritz	Erin Murphy		
Greeters	John, Carla, Erin & Daniel Murphy, Linda Peterson	Bud & Thelma Voetberg, Nick & Niki Schieffer →						
Ushers	Drue & Ellen Sander, Linda Naeve, Connie Hand	Steve & Marlene Johnson, Mike Lindell, Steve Vollstedt →						
Coffee Fellowship	Evangelism Committee		Women of St. Paul		Keith & Carol Folkmann			
Coffee Time Greeter	Thomas Wilson →							
Altar Flowers								
Offering Counters	Steve & Marlene Johnson →							
Power Point	Julie Coy	Becky Jackson →						
Sound Board	Greg VanNostrand	Charles Ellis →						
Altar Guild	Sharron Martin, Connie Buss,	Karen Griffin, Jan Ziebell →						
Video Recorder	John Murphy →							
Collate Bulletins	Carolyn Tweedt, Inez Smith →							