

OCTOBER 2017

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH
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REV. TODD JENKS, PASTOR

LORI JENKS, PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR
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A Letter from your Pastor

Martin Luther once told people not to name the church after him. He said, "I ask that my name be left silent and people not call themselves Lutheran, but rather Christians. Who is Luther? The doctrine is not mine. I have been crucified for no one. St. Paul in 1 Corinthians 3:4-5 would not suffer that the Christians should call themselves of Paul or of Peter, but Christian. How should I, a poor stinking bag of worms, become so that the children of Christ are named with my unholy name? It should not be dear friends. Let us extinguish all factious names and be called Christians, whose doctrine we have."

I guess that we really listened to Luther on that one, right? Good thing that we did listen to him, however, when it comes to the proclamation of the good news of Christ our Savior. As Luther

wrote in the preface to his commentary on Galatians, "In my heart reigns this one article: faith in Christ. From him, through him, and to him all my theological thinking is flowing and reflowing by day and by night."

This month as we celebrate Reformation, we remember God's grace, won for us by His Son Jesus. Is your life's focus Jesus, like it was for Martin Luther? Do you praise God day and night for all the blessings you have through Jesus Christ? Martin Luther reminds us that for each of us, the name above all names should be the name of Jesus. How often is the name of our favorite team in our hearts? How often is the name of our favorite tv show on our minds? How often is the name of our favorite food on our lips? How about the name of Jesus? How often is His name on our lips, on our minds, and in our hearts?

As God proclaims in Philippians 2:9-11, "Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

In the name of 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, October 1

Holy Communion

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

Sunday, October 8

LWML Sunday

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

Sunday, October 15

Stewardship Sunday

Holy Communion

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



Sunday, October 22

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

Sunday, October 29

Reformation Sunday

Holy Communion

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

News

Save the date! Trivia Night

Think you know a few things? Come show off your worthless trivia knowledge! The National Youth Gathering participants are hosting a trivia night January 13th to raise funds for the 2019 National Youth Gathering. Come compete for the prestigious title of: **Champion of People who “Noah” few things**. Cost is \$100 per team of eight (only \$12.50 per person), and we have room for 12 teams. Bring your own food, drink, and some friends for a great time. Whether you know a little bit about a lot of things or a lot about a little, come have some fun with us!



Fall Parish Choir rehearsals have begun– it's never too late to join us! We meet every Tuesday evening at 7:30 pm.

Update....Our Bucket...Your List.

The Discipleship Group and Thrivent want to thank everyone who used the "party buckets" to reach out to their friends and neighbors and join Jesus on His mission by inviting them to share time together. We heard some awesome stories and we know that Jesus is using every opportunity to join Him in our daily life.

The last of the buckets have been taken for this year but we are planning even more fun "buckets" and ways to Join Jesus on His Mission next year.



Stewardship

This has been the "year of the sunflower" at St. Paul. With your help, gardeners from Ames to climes all around the world are enjoying the beauty of one of God's wondrous creations!

When we look at the complex head of a maturing sunflower, we see dozens—if not hundreds—of seeds joined tightly together. These seeds are ready to give nourishment as food to man, bird or beast, or to be harvested as seed which will burst forth into new life again next spring.

The congregation at St. Paul is much like the beautiful head of a sunflower. Its members are like a sunflower's seeds—nourished and supported daily by one great stalk, Jesus, and held tightly together through faith and fellowship by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Just as a sunflower's seeds have many different uses, members of St. Paul have opportunities to nourish and enhance God's Kingdom through our work in His church. Whether through weekly offerings, or helping with the ministry and programs the church provides, we find ways through Christian stewardship to return thanks to God for bringing us to "everlasting maturity" in Christ.

An emphasis on church stewardship will be the focus of the services at St. Paul on Sunday, October 15. The Pastor will be preaching a stewardship message to help each of us examine ways that we can personally serve our Lord with gladness. We are also pleased to have Dr. Paul Maier leading our Adult Bible study this day.

As we think of ourselves as one small seed of a larger seed head of Christian life and nourishment, let us reflect on Paul's words from 1 Corinthians 15:58: "Therefore, my brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain."



Family Life

Tips to Help You Disciple Your Kids... Continued

by Thomas Wilson

Deuteronomy 6: 6-7; "These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up."

This month we continue our discussion on how to disciple your kids. We have read in Deuteronomy that we are to impress the commandments on our own hearts, and on the hearts of the children. This past month on Rally Sunday we heard from the Board of Education that parents have received the charge to bring your children up in the knowledge and love of the Lord. You have responded to that call and now have the joy to join your child in taking this step of faith. These two months have focused on how as parents you can disciple your children at home and at church. So, this month we continue to look at the 8 tips by Brain Dembowczyk.



In
His
Steps

Last month we looked at Tips 1-4: 1. Set realistic expectations, 2. See family discipleship as a way of life, not a program, 3. Focus on Jesus, and 4. Be a guide, not a general. Now let's continue by looking deeper at tips 5-8.

5. Feed your own growth. Spend more time feeding your growth and growing in your understanding of, and joy in, the gospel. Dive into God's Word more deeply. Remember, your children watch what you do, they remember what you do, and they imitate what you do. If you read from Holy Scripture then they will read their Bible. As you grow your confidence will increase and you will also have more to share with your kids.

6. Teach by your example. It has been said that people will remember more of what we do than what we say. Your children are learning far more from what they see you do. How is the gospel framing how you live each day in the home, in the community, at work, and beyond? Either start or continue modeling gospel transformation to your children this month.

7. Connect them deeply into your church. While God designed the parents to be the primary disciplers, he did not intend for you to be the only disciplers. He has given you the church – your local community of faith – to come alongside you, encourage you, and echo what you are teaching in your homes. Prioritize involvement in church, not because you have to or should, but because you want to. **The church and home are not to work in isolation of each other – they are to work hand-in-hand in partnership.**

8. Pray with them and for them. Just as you want to have meaningful conversations with your youth throughout the day, you want to pray with them and for them as well. Think about the opportunities you have each day, such as in the car on the way to school and as part of your bedtime routine, and use some of that time to pray together.

Education & Youth

THANK YOU!

Thank you to all the participants and volunteers for a successful Lutheran Olympics! It was great, family friendly, yet competitive day! We all had a blast, and future events are in the making!



Education and Youth

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD COMES TO ST. PAUL

The Amazing Journey of a Shoebox Gift Begins with You and Results in Evangelism, Discipleship, and Multiplication.

As a part of Samaritan's Purse International Relief, Operation Christmas Child collects shoeboxes filled with toys and other items from people like the St. Paul congregation. They ship these boxes to children around the world that need to hear the word of God and feel the love at Christmas time.

Starting Sunday, October 15th boxes will be available for members to pick up to fill. Inside the box will be a listing of items that are able to be packed, and instructions on how to pack the box. There will also be a small envelope for a \$9 donation for shipping, this will include the opportunity to track where your box is being sent!

Boxes are due back to the church Sunday, November 12th.

This project is being handled by the Family Life Ministry Office.



Trunk-or-Treat

October 29th, 2:00-3:30 pm

Join in the fun by decorating a trunk for this fun family activity. Stay tuned for more information as we get closer to the date.



We will have an **LYF meal and pumpkin decorating event** October 11 from 5:30-8 pm at the church. Look for more information coming soon!



Youth & Education

Save the date for this upcoming local youth gathering!

LCMS District High School Youth Gathering -Omaha (Grades 9-12)

Theme: "Hero -Greater. Better. True."

Everyone needs a hero. And yet, the older we get the more we realize that heroes aren't supernatural. The best hero stories are those of ordinary people doing extra-ordinary things. Scripture is filled with accounts like these. David, Esther, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. These accounts aren't random. They aren't disconnected. They are part of a single narrative in which every hero points beyond itself to one who is greater, one who is better, one who is true. "HERO" will lead participants on an action filled journey that reveals the greatest, better, truest hero of all- Jesus. Jesus, our hero who comes to save.

Dates: November 17-19, 2017

Where: Embassy Suites in LA Vista

Cost: \$135 per person + lodging (if postmarked by 10/11/17)

Students in grades 9-12 from Nebraska, South Dakota, and Iowa District West are invited to the 2017 District Middle Youth Gathering – Omaha on November 17-19, 2017 at Embassy Suites in LaVista.

The cost for this Gathering is \$135 per person. Registration includes Saturday meals, Sunday breakfast, snacks, speakers, Bible study, worship and games! Groups are responsible for their own housing arrangements. Information will be mailed to congregations in the summer or watch for updates at www.facebook.com/DistrictYouthGatheringOmaha/.

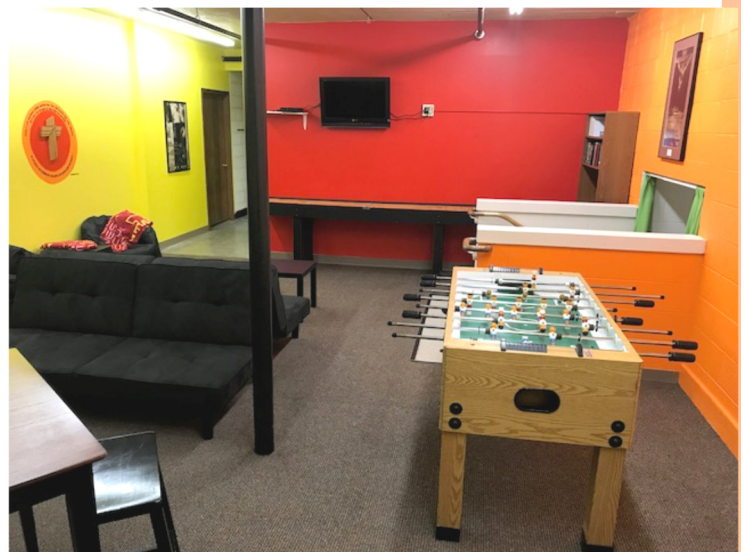


Thank you to everyone who helped make the new youth room ready!

Youth are enjoying their new space. It's a great place for youth to gather before Sunday school to socialize or a place for parents to have their kids go while attending a church meeting. There are tables to do homework or play games, a tv/DVD for movies, foosball table, and a shuffle board table with bowling too.

There are bean bag type chairs and futons to sit and read or talk. The walls are nice and bright and one wall is reserved for handprints of our confirm-

ands. If you haven't been downstairs yet, please come and see it!



LYF Event

On September 13,
the LYF kids had
a cook-out and
nature hike at
Moore Park.



American Heritage Girls

American Heritage Girls, sponsored by the Women of St. Paul, is off to a great start in our second year meeting at St Paul. The troop is full with 50 girls! This year the troop added a new level, the Pioneers, for girls in 7th-8th grade. The girls started by learning about Purity and memorizing 1 Timothy 4:12 "Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity." We also had a ceremony to award the many badges and service hour stars girls earned over the summer. The troop's first badge this fall is Zoology, and will include field trips to the Blank Park Zoo in Des Moines and McFarland Park with Story County Conservation. You can meet girls from the troop, and enjoy some delicious goodies, at our second annual Reformation Day Bake Sale on October 29th at St Paul.



Women's Ministry

Seven people from St. Paul attended the LWML fall retreat at Mission Central for an informative and fun day. Those attending were: Vickie, Angie, Lisa, Marci, Julie and Dick and Linda.



(L) Gary points out artifacts from Papua New Guinea. (R) Gary says "This is the reason we send missionaries to other countries. These are idols that the people worship. They need to hear the good news of Jesus."

Gary also shared exciting news about a new creation museum opening at Mission Central sometime in November. The museum will be open by appointment only.

Women's Ministry

LWML Mite Update: as of 8/31/17

2017-2019 Mission goal: \$2,075,000.00

Amount Received: \$364,377.43

Amount Needed: \$1,710,622.57

We collect mites for missions on the 4th Sunday of each month. For more information go to www.lwml.org.

LWML Sunday is October 8th. Be sure to wear purple and bring your extra change for the "noisy" offering.



FAMILY SERVICE ~

Quilters will meet on Thursday **October 12th** for a Thrivent Action Team Event from 10:15 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Wear your Thrivent T-Shirt, bring a sack lunch and join us. We also quilt on **October 26th** from 10:15 a.m. until noon. Bring a sack lunch.

At 1:00 we will have our Family Service Meeting with a devotion and a dessert. Please join us if you can.

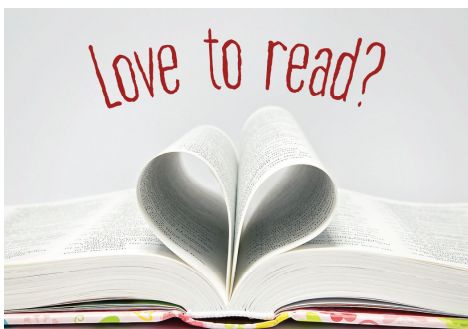


“Book to Know to Help You Grow”

Our next Book club meeting is in November. We will discuss “The Hiding Place” by Corrie ten Boom. Barnes and Noble says: "Every experience God gives us . . . is the perfect preparation for the future only He can see."—Corrie ten Boom

“Corrie ten Boom was a Dutch watchmaker who became a heroine of the

Resistance, a survivor of Hitler's concentration camps, and one of the most remarkable evangelists of the twentieth century. In World War II she and her family risked their lives to help Jews and underground workers escape from the Nazis, and for their work they were tested in the infamous Nazi death camps. Only Corrie among her family survived to tell the story of how faith ultimately triumphs over evil. Here is the riveting account of how Corrie and her family were able to save many of God's chosen people. For 35 years millions have seen that there is no pit so deep that God's love is not deeper still.” **Everyone is invited to read this book and join us for the discussion.**



Date	Hostess	Book
Nov 9, 2017	Adele	“The Hiding Place” by Corrie ten Boom
Feb 8, 2018	Karen	“Her Daughter’s Dream” by Francine Rivers
April 12, 2018	Gretchen	“In the Presence of My Enemies” by Gracia Burnham

October 2017 Service Roster

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St. Paul Lutheran Preschool

October 2017 News



Upcoming Dates:

October 9 - No School Professional Day

October 29 - Trunk or Treat 2-3:30 pm

Library Fieldtrips

October 9 - Lion Class 9:15-10 am and
Bears Class 1:15-2 pm

October 10 - M-Fr Lamb Class 9:15-2 pm

Fall Parties

October 30 - M/TH Lamb 10:30-11:30 am

October 31 - T/Fr Lamb 10:30-11:30 am

October 31 - M-Fr Lamb 10:15- 11:15 am

October 31 - Lion 10:30-11:30 am

October 31 - Bear 2:15-3:15 pm



We thank ISU football players for coming to St. Paul Lutheran Preschool to read to our preschoolers on September 18th. You were great readers! Thank you for the book you gave to each us! We really liked your visit. Go Cyclones!



God's October Birthday Blessings to...

Lamb C

Nate 10/4

Graham 10/10

Jan 10/19

Lion

Judah 10/11

Madison 10/31

Lamb A

Lainee 10/8

Mason 10/14

Owen 10/19

June 10/26

Maddie 10/28

Lamb B

Penney 10/16

Help Needed... Looking for reading buddies. Please Contact Lori Jenks if you wish to sign-up at education@saintpaulames.org or sign-up at the church bulletin board.



Let your light shine so
people everywhere may
see your good actions
and praise God in
heaven because of it.
Matthew 5:16