

# JANUARY 2018

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
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VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT [WWW.SAINTPAULAMES.ORG](http://WWW.SAINTPAULAMES.ORG)

REV. TODD JENKS, PASTOR

LORI JENKS, PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR  
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## A Letter from your Pastor

### Letter from Your Pastor

Remember the Christmas hymn *Go Tell It On The Mountain*? This is what Christmas is all about – God’s gift of love and forgiveness in Jesus, which we are blessed to be able to share with those around us! In this new year, we are launching “missional communities,” small support groups to provide you with encouragement and joy as you spread the love of Christ in your daily life. These small groups of around 10-12 people will meet in homes on a regular basis (such as twice a month) to encourage each other in spreading the love of Jesus, just like the shepherds did! *“And they returned [to their communities from Bethlehem], glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it had been told to them [by the angel]”* (Luke 2:20). Once the shepherds had witnessed Jesus, they went on their way and glorified God by going back to their villages and spreading the Word about the

newborn Savior. May God bless us today as we too “go tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born!”

A new year brings new opportunities. God has new opportunities planned for you this year, people He will place in your day so that you can share Christ’s love with them. You can begin each day by asking, “Jesus, what opportunities will you present to me today to share your love with the people whose paths I cross?” Do you believe what the Scriptures say, that God has planned in advance good works for us to do (Ephesians 2:10)? Will you keep your eyes and ears open for the opportunities God is presenting you to join Jesus in sharing His love?

Where does the model for our missional communities come from? Our home groups are based on the early Christians, who met in homes to encourage each other, pray with each other, and support each other in their lives in the Lord. This model is reflected for us in the Book of Acts. Sunday,

January 14, our Missional Community Launch Sunday, the sermon will reflect on and discuss this Biblical model.

May God bless you and be with you in this new year, as you “go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere, go tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born!”

Blessings in Jesus, the Savior who was born to bless our lives forever!

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*

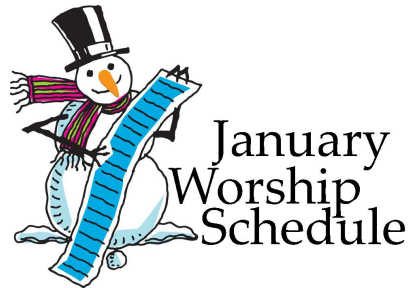
***Sunday, January 7***

***Holy Communion***

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

***Sunday, January 14***

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



***Sunday, January 21***

***Holy Communion***

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

***Sunday, January 28***

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

### **New Wednesday Morning Bible Study**

January 10 our Wednesday morning Bible study will begin its next study. This year we will study the book of Ezekiel. Ezekiel was a prophet who spoke words of comfort and consolation in times of uncertainty and frustration. He ministered during the dark days of the Babylonian captivity, proclaiming God's Word to the Lord's people in exile in a foreign land. One of the best-known visions in the book encapsulates the book's message – God breathes life into a pile of dead, dry, dusty bones. Do your "bones" ever feel dry and dusty, lacking luster? The Holy Spirit pours abundant life into us, through Jesus. Join us as we study this image-filled book of visions. Our Wednesday morning sessions are led by Pastor Jenks. We meet in the fellowship hall from 10:30-11:30 a.m. For the session on January 10, please read chapters 1-4 of Ezekiel.



## January Events

### Undeck the Halls

We will be taking down the Christmas tree and all the decorations on **Saturday, January 13th around 8:30 or 9:00 am** or whenever you can come in the morning to help. There is an ISU men's BB game at 2:00. **If you cannot come on Saturday, but have some free time before Saturday, January 13th.** This would make less work for Saturday morning. Please let me know if you would like to work on something before Saturday morning. Just send me an email at [japeter@iastate.edu](mailto:japeter@iastate.edu) or call me at 450-4039.

Thank you to everyone who helped decorate the church and for those who volunteer to help un-deck.

Serving Christ with Joy,

Judy Peter



**The Board of Human Care wishes to say THANK YOU** to all those who participated in our HOPE Gift Market. This year the total donated was \$14,304!!! Praise God!

#### Board of Evangelism

The board has sent Mission money to Julie Lutz and Rev Grulke.

We are working on getting a new photo directory for the church. We will talk to two photographers in January.

We would like someone to take pictures of the new members and plan a new member welcome for January.

Watch for news of a women's basketball game event for February.

Thanks to all who came to our Keepsake Nativity event. We hope this was a special time for all of you.

It would be great to do this next year and include more boards like we do for other family events.

# Missional Communities

## Are you ready?

Ready to be discipled to be a follower of Jesus in our local community?

Ready to be trained to seek God's Kingdom and join Jesus' mission as part of your daily life?

Ready for deeper relationships with other like-minded members of our congregation?

These questions are related to the topic of missional communities as introduced by Pastor Greg Finke in the second workshop at St. Paul on "Joining Jesus on His Mission". After the workshop, two Missional Communities have started at St. Paul. These groups have been meeting regularly the past several months to support each other and share what we are learning on our mission with Jesus. In order to pursue the Great Commission of Jesus (make disciples of all nations – Matt. 28:19-20), we would like to set up additional missional communities so more and more people will be discipled through relationships with other every day missionaries.

In January, members of these first groups will be inviting you to join them in a missional community.

## What is a missional community? What are the requirements/expectations?

The structure and requirements of a missional community are very simple:

meet in a small group (10-12 individuals) on a regular basis for as long as Jesus leads them.

be willing to share your experiences as you walk with Jesus.

groups will be led by one of the members of the first two missional communities.

## What are the benefits for you in being part of a missional community at St. Paul:

gaining clarity about my true identity and purpose in Christ

receiving training for making the mission of God my personal mission as well

becoming more experienced and confident in living out my faith for the good of others in the community

becoming more intentional and consistent about following the person of Jesus in my everyday life

receiving support, encouragement and accountability for following Jesus and joining Him every day

**The goal of a missional community is to provide you support and encouragement in your personal walk with Christ and as you share Jesus' love with others in your daily life.**

**If your answers to the questions in the first paragraph are "YES"... then please talk with members of the Discipleship Team or Pastor Jenks about becoming a part of one of our missional communities.**





## Education and Youth

### St. Paul Lutheran Church Team Sunday

Organized by the Board of Education

Sunday, February 4, 2018

God's Team ~ We are all members of God's Team.  
Show your team spirit by coming to church and  
Sunday School as a fan.

You can participate by:

1. Wearing your favorite team colors or jersey (any sport, any team – high school, college or pro)
2. Wearing a St. Paul shirt

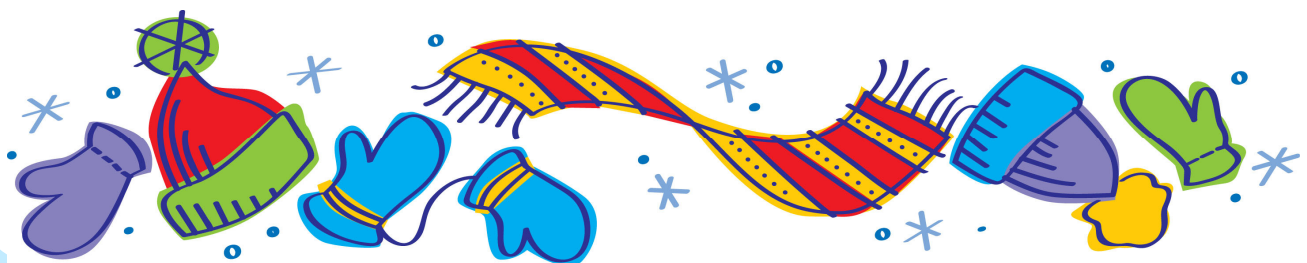
*"Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it." 1 Corinthians 12:27*



### Let's go Bowling!

All LYF youth are invited to go bowling on Wednesday, January 10. We will eat a quick meal at 5:30 at church and then go to Perfect Games for bowling. The Board of Youth will pay for one game of bowling, shoe rental and \$5 of arcade games OR one game of laser tag per youth. Youth may bring extra money for snacks or extra arcade games.

Look for permission forms and more information in the lobby and bulletin.



## Youth & Education

**This isn't a "trivial pursuit". It's a worthy cause!** Do you know stuff about things? Come show off your worthless trivia knowledge! The National Youth Gathering participants are hosting a trivia night January 13<sup>th</sup> 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 table (team) of eight (only \$12.50 per person), and we have room for 12 tables/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!

We are looking to pre-register the tables by early December so we can prepare the event through the busy holiday season. Pick a team captain and contact Thomas Wilson to reserve your table with pre-payment.

Any questions contact Matt & Janelle Wegner or Jeff & DeAnn Barnes.



### Church members- Get Ready to Bid!

As part of the NYG trivia night fundraiser on January 13, we will be having a silent auction. Some items include: 4 passes to the Boone & Scenic Valley Railroad and Museum, passes to the Blank Park Zoo, tickets to an event at the Iowa State Center, 4 tickets to the Des Moines Ballet "Triple Bill" at Stephens Auditorium, a gift basket from Chick-Fil-A restaurant, gift cards from Country Landscapes, Hickory Park, and Seven Oaks Recreation, passes from Ames Park and Rec for Furman aquatic center, municipal indoor pool, Ames ice arena and golf. More items will be available for bidding on and there will be something for everyone!





## American Heritage Girls

The AHG will hold their mid-year awards ceremony and joining ceremony on January 8 in the sanctuary at St Paul. This will be immediately following the regular meeting at 5:15. Come join us!





## Women's Ministry

**Please help “ Support our Sisters”.** As you shop in the months to come please look for fantastic sales or clearance racks of something every woman needs---- supportive undergarments, ..bras. All sizes, for the very young girls to the older woman. Our LWML district leaders have requested that we help fill a need identified for those who are disadvantaged. We will be gathering these items in the spring to take as part of the ingathering for the Iowa West District LWML Convention at Okoboji in June. Watch for a bin to place these much needed items.

### **LWML National 2017–2019 Mission Grant #4 — \$25,000 Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania (ELCT)**

In southeastern Tanzania, many young women from villages do not attend school or have jobs, and so seek unskilled jobs in larger towns, often ending up involved in prostitution. Some end up with AIDS or unexpected pregnancies, with no means of supporting themselves. The ELCT has established the Bishop Makala Sewing Center to teach young women sewing, life skills, and the Gospel. The ELCT goal is to build classrooms with a 50 student capacity, along with a dormitory. Within one year of training, their sewing skills enable women to have pocket money, purchase a sewing machine, and buy materials to create sewn items to sell for income.

Thank you for supporting the LWML Mission Grants with your mites which are collected on the 4th Sunday of each month.





## Women's Ministry

**LWML Mite Update:** as of 11/30/17

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

**Amount Received: \$590,453.87**

**Amount Needed: \$1,484,546.13**

We normally collect mites for missions on the 4th Sunday of each month. For more information go to [www.lwml.org](http://www.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.

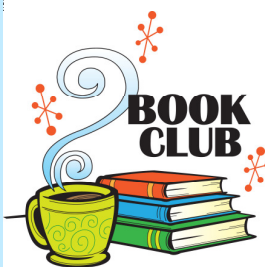


**A big thank you** to all those who made soup and accessories for the Soup and Sweets Dinner. We might have been a small crowd, but we were mighty.

**FAMILY SERVICE** Family Service Quilters will meet on Thursday **January 11th** from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. for a Thrivent Action Team Event. Wear Thrivent T-Shirts and bring a sack lunch. We also meet on **January 25th** at 10:00 a.m. Bring a sack lunch. At 1:00 p.m. we will have our business meeting with a devotion and dessert. Please join us.



### “Book to Know to Help You Grow”



**Our next Book club meeting is in February. We will discuss “Her Daughter’s Dream” by Francine Rivers. Barnes and Noble says:** “In the dramatic conclusion to the *New York Times* best seller *Her Mother’s Hope*, Francine Rivers delivers a rich and deeply moving story about the silent sorrows that can tear a family apart and the grace and forgiveness that can heal even the deepest wounds.

Growing up isn’t easy for little Carolyn Arundel. With her mother, Hildemara, quarantined to her room with tuberculosis, Carolyn forms a special bond with her oma Marta, who moves in to care for the household. But as tensions between Hildie and Marta escalate, Carolyn believes she is to blame. When Hildie returns to work and Marta leaves, Carolyn and her brother grow up as latchkey kids in a world gripped by the fear of the Cold War.” **Everyone is invited to read this book and join us for the discussion.** \*Our church library has a copy of this book. The Ames Public Library has 2 printed copies and 4 ebook copies.

Date	Hostess	Book
Feb 8, 2018, 7 pm	Karen Griffin	“Her Daughter’s Dream” by Francine Rivers
April 12, 2018, 7 pm	Gretchen Zitterich	“In the Presence of My Enemies” by Gracia Burnham

# January 2018 Service Roster

	<b>Jan 7 8:30</b>	<b>Jan 7 11:00</b>	<b>Jan 14 8:30</b>	<b>Jan 14 11:00</b>	<b>Jan 21 8:30</b>	<b>Jan 21 11:00</b>	<b>Jan 28 8:30 am</b>	<b>Jan 28 11:00</b>
Organist	Zach Heilman		Ellen Sander		Zach Heilman		Praise Team	
Elders	Matt Weiss	Greg Gebhart →						
Lectors	Alberta Voge	Brenda Dryer	Phil Voge	Brenda Dryer	Alberta Voge	Brenda Dryer	Phil Voge	Brenda Dryer
Acolytes	Jackson Stensland	Tate Ploessl			Emma Buttery	Madison Weber		
Greeters	Connie Buss, Tom & Cindy Baas	Phil & Alberta Voge, Connie Buss	Bob & Marilyn Walker, Tom & Cindy Baas	Phil & Alberta Voge, Bob & Marilyn Walker	Judy Peter, Tom & Cindy Baas	Phil & Alberta Voge, Judy Peter	Judy Peter, Tom & Cindy Baas	Phil & Alberta Voge, Judy Peter
Ushers	Dennis & Karen Griffin, Phil & Alberta Voge	Scott & Brenda Dryer, Keith & Carol Folkmann →						
Coffee Fellowship					Gloria Lewis, Karen Griffin			
Coffee Time Greeter	Lisa Wilson →							
Altar Flowers								
Offering Counters	Larry & Nancy Wiebel →							
Power Point	Tom Baas	Tom Baas	Tom Baas	Tom Baas	Linda Naeve	Linda Naeve	Linda Naeve	Linda Naeve
Sound Board	Tom Baas	Tom Baas	Tom Baas	Tom Baas	Harry Mundt	John Murphy	Harry Mundt	John Murphy
Altar Guild	Gretchen Zitterich, Jan Ziebell	Karen Belz →						
Video Recorder	Steve Wilcken →							
Collate Bulletins	Katie Friedrich, Gloria Lewis →							