

DECEMBER 2018

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH
610 15TH ST.
AMES, IA 50010
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VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.SAINTPAULAMES.ORG

REV. DR. TODD JENKS, PASTOR
THOMAS WILSON, DIR. FAMILY LIFE
LORI JENKS, PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR
PRESCHOOL- 515-233-1914

A Letter from your Pastor

Friends in Christ,

Families receive great joy when they welcome a new child into their midst. Parents and grandparents proudly and joyfully share photos of the new little one. It's a wonderful time of celebration! However, not every family has that joy. Some instead experience sorrow or loss.

On the other hand, there is a baby boy we welcome this month who brings joy to every single family of the world! Even in our times of sorrow and struggle, he brings us hope, and help. What child is this? Jesus, of course!

Come share the joy with us during this Advent season. Our special services of reflection will be held on Wednesday evenings. These devotional services are designed to be around 45 minutes in length, more or less (depends on how long-winded that preacher gets).

Advent midweek worship will be held at 7 p.m. December 2, 9 and 16.

In Jesus, whose birth blesses us and brings joy to the world,

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, December 2

Holy Communion

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

Wednesday, December 5

Advent I

7:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 9

8:30 &

11:00 a.m. (Sunday School

Christmas Program)

Wednesday, December 12

Advent II

7:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 16

Holy Communion

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



Wednesday, December 19

Advent III

7:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 23

Only One Service

10:00 a.m.

Monday, December 24

Christmas Eve

5:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, December 25

Christmas Day

Holy Communion

10:00 a.m.

Sunday, December 30

Only One Service

Holy Communion

10:00 a.m.

Informed Choices of Iowa is announcing that they are partnering with the Obria Group.

This is the only trademarked life-affirming national brand of affiliate clinics and telemedicine for Obria Clinics. Their unified brand will more effectively compete with major pro-abortion providers-reaching more at-risk patients together than is possible as stand-alone clinics.



The new name of the Informed Choices clinic in Ames will be Obria Medical Clinics.

COME HAVE FUN DECORATING THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS, Friday, December 7th

There is Children's Christmas Program practice and other events in the church on Saturday, December 1st and 8th, so we will be **"Decorating for Christmas" on Friday, Dec. 7th starting at 1:00** and going till we are done. You can come anytime to help.

This is a special time of the year for all of us and what a great way to start out the season to take time to help prepare our hearts and the church. The more people who help, means more fun and less work than just a few can do.

Wednesday, Dec 5th after the Advent Service we would like your help in getting out all the Christmas decorations from the old balcony.

We appreciate all your help. Please email Judy Peter at japeterames@gmail.com or call her at 450-4039 if you have any questions or suggestions.



St. Paul Music Extravaganza



Join us at 9:45 a.m. on December 16th to make a joyful noise for the coming of our Lord with the musical talents of the Saint Paul Praise Team, Parish Choir, St. Paul Brass, Bell Choir, and special guest Rylee Matthews! The celebration will be held between services during the regular education hour. All are welcome, so bring your children, family, and friends!

Come and join the Conversational Dinner group caroling on Sunday, December 2nd at 4:30 p.m. We will meet at the Stone Brooke Clubhouse located at the corner of Fletcher Boulevard and Stone Brooke Road. Please bring a favorite snack or Christmas goody to share after we return from caroling. Table service will be furnished. All church members are very welcome to join the group for caroling. As they say, the more the merrier! We plan to disperse from the clubhouse to do our caroling by 5 p.m. Please contact Pam Mundt or Marlene Johnson if you have any questions.



Family Life

Join Us on a Trip to Bethlehem!

Join us at St. Paul on Saturday, December 8th for a trip through Bethlehem!

“One Starry Night” will take families through the birthplace of Jesus where you will see, touch and maybe even smell and taste what life was like when Jesus was born!



The doors will open at 2:00 PM for families to start their journey. Come any time between 2:00 and 4:00 PM for this “at your own pace” experience! Questions? Please contact Thomas Wilson at: familylife@saintpaulames.org

THANK YOU!



A huge shout out to all the members who contributed to this year's Operation Christmas Child boxes!

From our congregation, preschool, and American Heritage Girls we collected 109 boxes this year! That's a little over 25% more than last year! Way to go!



Education and Youth

Find out the answer to the question *What Child Is This?* at the children's Christmas service on December 9, 2018 / 11:00 service. Children will provide the answer through songs and readings. Come and discover together!



Children's Christmas Service Practice & Service

Saturday, December 1st / 9:00 - 10:30 - 2nd Grade - High School only

Saturday, December 8th / 9:00 - 10:30 - ALL STUDENTS / Pre School - High School

Sunday, December 9th - Practice 9:45 - 10:45 / 3rd grade - High School
(younger students will have Sunday School)

Sunday, December 9th - Children's Christmas Service 11:00

Please notify Brenda Dryer (bsdryer50@gmail.com) if your child is interested in participating in the band ensemble for this service.

Make ROOM
in YOUR Heart
for JESUS

MOM CONNECTION

Here are our get-togethers for December.

5th- Christ Community Church
(The Plex) 10am

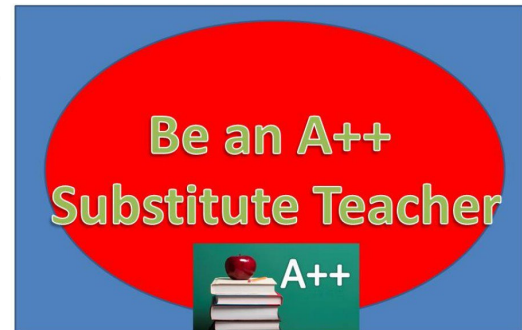
12th- Craft Day at St. Paul 10am

Questions— Contact Lindsey at cldohrman@icloud.com



Education and Youth

WANTED: Do you want to get involved in our youth's education, but don't want to teach full time? If this is you, we have a perfect solution!!! **The Board of Education is in need of a couple substitute Sunday school teachers** for those few times when the regular teacher is either sick or needs a Sunday away. All materials are provided and it's a great way to share your love of Jesus with our kids. Please give prayerful consideration to this very important need. You may contact Thomas Wilson or Cindy Baas to sign up or for more information.



Save the Date!



Are you ready for another round of Trivia Night? The National Youth Gathering participants are hosting a trivia night January 12, 2019!

This year will be a similar format to last year, with a cost of \$100 for a table of eight. We are limited to ten teams, so get your team ready and start brushing up on your worthless knowledge!

Christmas Time is Coming!

Christmas time is just around the corner, and the participants of the National Youth Gathering want to help you get ready! Most people do not like to wrap their gifts. It's time consuming and just a drag. Well, let the youth who are preparing for the National Youth Gathering complete your gift wrapping for you, and you can donate any amount you wish! We have two gift wrapping fundraisers coming your way.

Are you taking a name off the Angel Tree during the Hope Gift Market? Great! The NYG Gift Wrappers will be here on Saturday, December 1st to assist all of our Angel Tree participants with wrapping their gifts and getting them ready for collection!

Are you a late Christmas shopper? Don't worry, the NYG Gift Wrappers will be available on Saturday, December 15th for all your gift-wrapping needs.

The Gift Wrappers will be here from 10:30 – 1:30 on December 1st and December 15th to get this job done for you!



Youth

Five of our middle school youth participated in the Iowa District West JR Youth Gathering in West Des Moines on October 27-28th. The theme for the weekend was DELIVERED. "He saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit." Titus 3:5

Our Youth participated in several great activities including preparing meals for 'Meals from the Heartland', Bible trivia, Noah's Flood and Baptism, amazing presentations, and so much more. Our youth were very blessed to have experienced this great opportunity and they also shared their experiences below.

Shaun -I enjoyed the songs and the pastor Ben Johnson, he made some interesting statements. What I took away from the gathering is that God made a big universe and everything in it but we were his favorite creation. So, then we sinned and God was heartbroken. What it meant to me to have this opportunity is that, it was amazing to go on this trip because it was my first big trip with the church.

Keegan -Something I liked about the gathering was the mass gatherings we had. We were all together in one room listening to Pastor Ben. I also liked that there were several mass events, so we could talk about a lot of things pertaining to the main theme. Something I took away from the gathering is, we all have sinned. Some are "worse" than others, but God still saved us. I have been told that all my life, but it finally clicked at the gathering.

Hi my name is Eayon and I went to the Jr. High Youth gathering in Des Moines, Iowa. I felt that it has brought me closer to God. My favorite was a song about the g.o.s.p.e.l in one of the meetings in the ballroom. I really enjoyed the bouncy houses and all the activities. I can't wait to go back again next year.

Tate -I loved the youth gathering in West Des Moines at the Sheraton Hotel. The people that ran the gathering are great at organizing things that lots of kids would want to do, I really felt like I got everything that I could have asked for at an overnight gathering. They had plans after plans, there was not really a sit down time, you were either dancing and singing to God or learning about him and the Bible. I really loved the singers Swen and Dean and the stories that they had. It was a great time and I for one do not like to sing or dance much but I for sure could have sung or danced all night with them. Overall I think that it was a great atmosphere there and I will definitely go again next year.

Daniel -The Iowa District West Junior Youth Gathering was a Ton of Fun! One of my favorite parts was all of the big events that were held, where there was a small Bible lesson, and songs. (Swen and Dean were great!) I also was able to see and talk with a couple of friends from Camp Okoboji! When the day was nearing an end, our St. Paul group gathered around and did a nightly devotion. Overall, I think that the IDW Junior Youth Gathering was awesome!! I thank St Paul for prayers, leaders and the opportunity to go. It is a great way to get closer to God, while interacting with others and having fun! So I think other youth should go next year too!!



Youth

“WHATEVER” YOUTH GATHERING HIGHLIGHTS FROM OUR YOUTH....

November 8-10th seven high school youth and two leaders from St Paul attended the IDW youth gathering “Whatever” in Des Moines. The theme was based on Philippians 4:8-9. The world tells us it’s ok to say whatever, be whatever, have faith in whatever, and more, but God’s word says to be whatever is true, honorable, just, pure, lovely, commendable, excellent and praiseworthy.

Here are a few thoughts from the youth about their “whatever” weekend....

“The word “whatever” was the focus for the gathering. Changing the word from a dismissive word, to something that helps our faith. The one session that I learned the most from was “whatever is practicing our faith”. The biggest message and takeaway I got is that we need to keep our faith in our next stop of life. Being able to continue our walk with Jesus throughout our life is something very important to our faith journey. -Kaitlin

The gathering allowed me to be able to find my place as a Christian. I found myself through the centers that I attended and by the fellow Christian’s that I meet along the way. In one of the centers that I attended I learned that we need to practice our faith just like how you practice a sport or instrument; it’s no different from your relationship with Christ. With the learning experience I was able to meet some fellow Christian’s also. We had a good time playing corn hole and signing karaoke with the same goal in mind - Christ. This trip really helped me to be able to escape from the temptations that we face in society and learn how not only to deal with them but how to overcome the temptations. -Ben

Attending the youth gathering this November, I learned a lot about myself and my faith. Many questions I had about my faith were answered and opened a window to deeper thinking and a stronger relationship with Jesus. All the while I had so much fun making memories and becoming closer with friends as they we shared fun experiences together learning about God. We participated in many fun activities provided by the gathering leaders and I will never forget this experience! -Hannah

I had a great time worshipping God during this district youth gathering. This was my first ever youth gathering and I was nervous, but I had no reason to be nervous. I learned a lot from the breakout sessions about improving my faith and being kind to others. The speakers were also great at connecting with us and setting examples for us on how to love God. This gathering really strengthened my faith and made me pay more attention to my faith as well. -Parker

I’m grateful for the opportunities to go to events like this. What I took away from the “whatever” gathering is turning that dismissive word into a word that can guide my faith; whatever I can do to keep my walk with Christ going. The session I liked the most was with Tanner Olson who was the keynote speaker and his message about how Hope doesn’t let the story end and how Hope is really Jesus. That means that with Jesus my story won’t end. -Erin

I really enjoyed the Sr. Youth Gathering and can't wait until next year! The main speaker gave some really thought provoking keynotes that encouraged me to think deeper on my faith. I also enjoyed the sectionals I went to where I learned about how to apply faith to daily life and where it can fit into everyday scenarios. The band performing did a fantastic job and it was very fun to meet the other youth at the gathering. I had a great time with the other youth members of our congregation as well and got to have a lot of fun with all of the activities. -Katie

“Whatever” was an amazing gathering! I met a lot of new people and I had so much fun with our group from church. I learned a lot from it and really feel closer to God!! -Maddie

Thank you St Paul for the love and support you show our youth through opportunities like this to grow both individually and as a group!



Youth

There were 20 youth who attended the LYF event Giving Thanks and Games a Plenty on Wednesday, November 14 at the church fellowship hall. The evening consisted of having supper, talking about what it really means to give thanks and remembering that God is the giver of all that we have. The kids also had the opportunity to write a message to someone special to them and thank them for something they have done for them. The kids also brought non-perishable items to collect for Bethesda Food Pantry. The night ended by the youth playing games in the youth room. A great night was had by all!

There will be no LYF event in December. We encourage all youth to participate in the Sunday School Christmas Program on Sunday, December 9.



Women's Ministry

AMERICAN HERITAGE GIRLS BAKE SALE THANK YOU! We are again overwhelmed by the generosity of the St. Paul families. We enjoyed meeting you and hope you enjoyed the yummy treats! Thank you for supporting our programming and activities as we nurture 58 godly American Heritage Girls.



Women's Ministry

LWML National 2017–2019 Mission Grant #15 — \$100,000 Sharing Jesus with People with Disabilities

Bethesda Lutheran Communities desires to enhance the lives of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities with services that share the Good News of Jesus Christ. Operating at program locations across the United States, they provide homes and support, promoting awareness and advocating for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Over 1,900 people at 300 program sites in 13 states are served. Travel is essential in achieving this mission. Costs are not subject to state reimbursement when faith supports are at the heart of the mission. Relying on the support of donors, Bethesda is able to nourish relationships and grow their network to support people of all abilities with their faith journey. Grant funds would be used to support ministry consultant travel.



Ministry Consultant Rev. Philemon Ngare helps a person we support complete Bethesda's Faith in Action workbook.

ADVENT "SOUP AND SWEETS" SUPPER IS DECEMBER 5



The Annual Advent "SOUP AND SWEET" Supper will be on Wednesday, December 5, at 5:45 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Members of the congregation are asked to bring soup or sweets to share as well as other needed items. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board

in the narthex. Please sign up for the item you wish to share and also if you are able to help with kitchen duties before, during or after the meal. We look forward to sharing good food and warm fellowship before our first Advent Service.



Please return Your Angel Tree gifts by Dec 9. Please have them packaged by number, with the number on each piece. Thank you. Our youth would be glad to wrap them for you on Dec 1st for a donation!



Women's Ministry

LWML Mite Update: as of 10/31/18

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

Amount Received: \$1,397,306.08

Amount Needed: \$677,693.92

We normally collect mites for missions on the 1st Sunday of each month. For more information about LWML go to 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/Missions bulletin board going up to the fellowship hall. You may read it and replace it when you are finished.

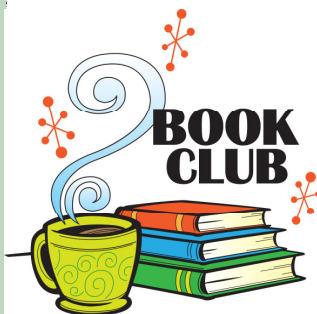


FAMILY SERVICE ~ Family Service will hold its annual Christmas Luncheon on Thursday, December 13th at 12:00 p.m. Anyone is welcome to attend. Please RSVP to Irene Holthaus by Tuesday, December 11th.



Our next quilting meeting will be Thursday, January 10th, with a Thrivent Action Team Event from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Bring a sack lunch and join us. Thanks to all who have contributed fabrics for quilts.

“Book to Know to Help You Grow”



Thirteen women met at Carol Folkmann's home and discussed *Luther and Katharina* by Jody Hedlund. We started the evening out taking a fun quiz found at www.jodyhedlund.com to test our general knowledge on Luther and Katharina. It started our discussion. Although the book is historical fiction, most of the attendees learned more about the life and times of Martin Luther and Katharina. The realities of life in a convent or a monastery surprised many. Everyone seemed to like the book. There is a copy in the Ames Public Library if you would like to read it.

Our January book is *A Light to My Path* by Lynn Austin. The Barnes and Noble description is: **"You don't have to go with Missy Claire. She can't make you go with her."** Kitty, a house slave, has always obeyed Missy Claire and followed orders. But when word arrives that the Yankees are coming, Kitty is faced with a decision. Will she continue serving Missy Claire and her household? Or will she listen to Grady and embrace this chance for freedom? Even wise Delia says Kitty has to decide for herself--that nobody except the Lord can tell her which way to go. Kitty has always lived in a world where authority is not questioned. She never has learned to make up her own mind any more than she has learned to read or write. But now Kitty has a daunting choice: How does she want her story to end?

In her bestselling tradition, Lynn Austin brings the Civil War years to life in the Refiner's Fire trilogy.

Everyone is invited to read this exciting book and join us for the discussion on January 17, 7:00 pm, at the home of Karen Griffin.

Date	Hostess	Book
Jan 17, 2019, 7 pm (Third Thursday)	Karen G	"A Light to My Path (Refiner's Fire, Book 3)" by Lynn Austin
March 14, 2019, 7 pm	Pam H	"Women of Easter" by Liz Curtis Higgs
May 9, 2019, 7 pm	Julie C	"Evidence Not Seen" by Darlene Deibler Rose

December 2018 Service Roster

	Dec 2 8:30	Dec 2 11:00	Dec 9 8:30	Dec 9 11:00	Dec 16 8:30	Dec 16 11:00	Dec 23 10:00	Dec 30 10:00
Organist	LaDonna Osborn		Ellen Sander		Praise Team		LaDonna Osborn	Ellen Sander
Elders	Paul Knop	Jon Buss →					Paul Knop	Paul Knop
Lectors	Tanny Latuska	Keith Folkmann	Tanny Latuska	(Sunday School Program)	Ron Juelfs	Keith Folkmann	Ron Juelfs	Ron Juelfs
Acolytes	Taylor	Kylie			Keegan	Dylan		Evan
Greeters	Tanny Latuska, Gloria Lewis	Kevin Dougan, Jolene Drawbond →					Tanny Latuska, Gloria Lewis	Tanny Latuska, Gloria Lewis
Ushers	Dean & Ardy Ulrichson, Jerry Schradle, Ron Juelfs	Keith & Carol Folkmann, Ellen Sander, Vickie Roach →					Dean & Ardy Ulrichson, Jerry Schradle, Ron Juelfs	Dean & Ardy Ulrichson, Jerry Schradle, Ron Juelfs
Coffee Fellowship							No Coffee today	No Coffee today
Coffee Time Greeter	Linda Peterson →						No Coffee today	No Coffee today
Altar Flowers								
Offering Counters	Matt & Sandra Pflug →							
Power Point	Linda Naeve	Linda Naeve	Linda Naeve	Linda Naeve	Linda Naeve	Linda Naeve	Linda Naeve	Linda Naeve
Sound Board	Tom Peter	Charles Ellis	Tom Peter	Charles Ellis	Tom Peter	Charles Ellis	Tom Peter	Tom Peter
Altar Guild	Gretchen Zitterich,	Beck Jackson, Judy Peter →						
Video Recorder	Mike Lindell →							
Collate Bulletins	Dick & Linda Peterson →							
Valet Parkers								

Advent/Christmas 2018 Service Roster

	Dec 5 7:00 p.m. Wednesday Advent I	Dec 12 7:00 p.m. Wednesday Advent II	Dec 19 7:00 p.m. Wednesday Advent III	Dec 24 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve	Dec 24 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve	Dec 25 10:00 a.m. Christmas Day
Organist	LaDonna Osborn	Ellen Sander	LaDonna Osborn	LaDonna Osborn	LaDonna Osborn	Zach Heilman
Elder	Bob Walker	Paul Knop	Duane Faas	Keith Folkmann	Denny Tice	Ron Coy
Acolyte						Erin
Lector	Dennis Dobberke	Tanny Latuska	Tom Baas	Jerry Schradle	Dawn Schulte	Linda Peterson
Ushers	Denny & Shirley Tice, Randy & Linda Naeve	Jeromy & Angela Fritz, Tom & Judy Peter	Tom & Cindy Baas, Matt & Sandra Pflug	Harry & Pam Mundt, Dean & Ardy Ulrichson	Keith & Carol Folkmann, Dennis & Karen Griffin	Paul & Adele Knop, Reiny & Maureen Friedrich
Greeters	Tom & Beth Henriksen, Jordan & Stephanie	Tanny Latuska, John Murphy Family	Kevin Dougan, Stephanie & Kylie Taylor	Jerry Schradle, Gretchen Zitterich	Wanda & Dawn Schulte, Bob & Marilyn Walker	Connie Buss, Dick & Linda Peterson
Offering Counters	Matt & Sandra Pflug	Matt & Sandra Pflug	Matt & Sandra Pflug	Matt & Sandra Pflug	Matt & Sandra Pflug	Matt & Sandra Pflug
Power Point	Samantha Koep	Cindy Baas	Stephanie Mandernach	Julie Coy	Linda Naeve	Lisa Wilson
Sound-board	Evan Koep	Tom Baas	Jordan Mandernach	Greg VanNostrand	Charles Ellis	Thomas Wilson
Collate Bulletins	Dick & Linda Peterson	Dick & Linda Peterson	Dick & Linda Peterson	Dick & Linda Peterson	Dick & Linda Peterson	Dick & Linda Peterson

