

# JUNE 2020

**ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
610 15TH ST.  
AMES, IA 50010  
515-232-5838

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT [WWW.SAINTPAULAMES.ORG](http://WWW.SAINTPAULAMES.ORG)**  
**OR OUR FACEBOOK PAGE AT ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH, AMES, IA**

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

## Letter from Pastor

Friends in Christ,

COVID-19 has truly changed things, hasn't it? Many of our routines and even our daily delights have been replaced by quite different patterns in our lives. Your life, and your schedule, may have felt more empty during these many days of the pandemic. Yet Jesus proclaims to us, "I have come that you may have life, and have it to the full!" (or abundantly, according to other translations) (John 10:10).

So what is the abundant life? Is it a life full of activities? Or is it a life full of Jesus? It seems to me that Jesus is telling us that we aren't the ones who make our lives abundant; He is the one who makes our lives abundant! An abundant life is a life filled by Jesus Christ, pervaded by His presence, power and love.

Although not their best-known song, the band Cheap Trick recorded the song, "Everything Works If You Let It." Lyrically, there really wasn't much to this song other than the frequently repeated line, "Everything'll work out if you let it." God's lyrics have it so much better, when God tells us not to be a fretter, because He is working it all out for us. "We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose" (Romans 8:28)! God loves you! God is working for your good! God is giving you a full and abundant life through Jesus Christ!

During these pandemic days, like many people, I have been putting together puzzles. I like the 1000-piece variety because they offer a bigger challenge. Just think what a challenge it would be if we tried to put together a 1000-piece puzzle without the box cover to see what the end result is supposed to look like! That's the way life often is, though. We go through difficulties and struggles, and as we do, we can't seem to piece it all together.

The good news is that God has the picture on the puzzle-box cover! God knows how it all ties together! And God's plan is to give us a full and abundant life through Jesus Christ!

Could it be that God wants us to look to Him and to trust that He knows the big picture? Could it be that God wants us, through faith, to cling to Jesus, who clung to the cross for us and walked out of the tomb for us and ascended to heaven to send the Holy Spirit to us? Could it be that God wants us to rest in His promise that He will work everything out for our good and for His glory? "For I know the plans I have in mind for you, declares the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for your woe, so as to give you a future full of hope!" Jeremiah 29:11

In Jesus, who fills our lives with abundance and brings us hope,

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, June 7***

*10:00 a.m. Worship at church*

*And*

*10:00 a.m. Live Stream*

***Sunday, June 14***

*10:00 a.m. Worship at church*

*And*

*10:00 a.m. Live Stream*



***Sunday, June 21***

*10:00 a.m. Worship at church*

*And*

*10:00 a.m. Live Stream*

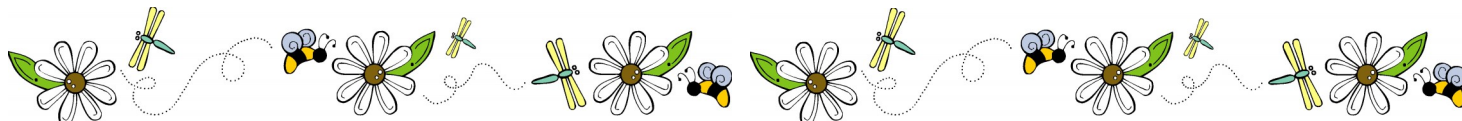
***Sunday, June 28***

*10:00 a.m. Worship at church*

*And*

*10:00 a.m. Live Stream*

**Note: When we are able to do so, we will return to our regular in-person Sunday schedule.**



## Board of Stewardship

During our recent time of on-line worship, St. Paul members, as well as family and friends who have joined our services from afar, have joyfully continued to support our ministry with their offerings. God has indeed blessed St. Paul with faithful stewardship!

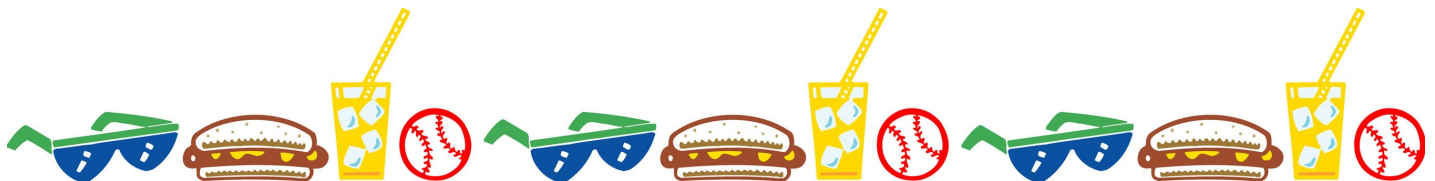
While many members continue to mail offerings or drop them off at church, some have discovered the convenience of electronic giving. Some members have arranged either weekly or monthly offerings directly from their bank accounts to the church bank account.

Statistics show that 96% of Americans now have their income paid to them electronically via direct deposit. This method is secure, reliable and is the most cost-effective way for doing business these days. These same reasons are what makes paying bills electronically...and even supporting their church electronically... convenient and attractive for many.

Setting up direct offerings to the church is simple to do...either contact your bank to have this arranged, or speak to our Financial Secretary Tom Baas at 515/291-4171 and he will be happy to assist you.

Other members and guest worshippers have also appreciated the convenience of on-line or mobile giving that's been set up on our church Web site, [www.saintpaulames.org](http://www.saintpaulames.org).

The Board of Stewardship encourages members to continue giving regular offerings in whatever way suits them best, either traditionally by cash or check, or through electronic giving.



*Many thanks to all our friends and fellow members of St. Paul for the many cards and gifts of consolation.*

*Our family came to Ames in May, 1977 to our "new" home and our "new" church, at St. Paul Lutheran.*

*Thank all of you for your Christian love and friendship.*

*The Norman Pietsch Family*

*Thank You!*





## It's time to ~~GET~~ STAY active!

Life has changed so much over the past 2 to 3 months. Families have changed life styles, youth are learning from home, adults are working from home, sports are cancelled, activity after activity is being cancelled or shutdown. So, what are we supposed to do? If gyms are not open at full capacity how can we work out and stay fit? What about my kids?

We have seen so many families and individuals over the past months show us how they are staying active during this COVID-19 pandemic. We have seen nature hikes and bike rides. We have seen outside play (at home and not at a public park!) and walks around Iowa State campus. Where can you go to have these great experiences? Here is a small list of places close by to get some outdoor exercise!

Ada Hayden Park

McFarland Park

Ledges State Park (north of Madrid)

High Trestle Trail (start in Madrid – great for biking!)

McHose Park (Boone)

Iowa State Campus – Beautiful campus and history!

Sopers Mill

Petersons Pit



When you are at a park or on a trail you can always find ways to make it special and keep your focus. Maybe you stop and look at the leaves, flowers and plants. Maybe you take binoculars and look for animals and birds. But what if you just want to take a walk around the block? How can you make it fun and not boring? Easy! Become 'goofy'! Take time to have fun walking by walking funny. Maybe for one block you skip (if you are able), the next block you zig-zag from left to right and back again. Have some real fun with the next block and dance or take LOONNNNGGGG strides. Do whatever is comfortable for you and your kids. Sure, you may look funny, BUT that's the point! Just have fun!

Remaining active in this time of restrictions and isolation is what will matter the most. Keep your body moving!



## Family Life

### Homegrown Fruits of the Spirit: What is Love?

There are many words for Love. Sanskrit has ninety-six words for love, ancient Persian has eighty, and Greek has four words. However, the English language has only one! It is no wonder we confuse *Love* in our American culture.

In the Greek language, *phileo* means “brotherly love”; *storge* means “love between family members”; *eros* is “romantic love”; and *agape* is “unconditional, godly love.” The Bible uses each of these four words at different times. God’s love for us, though, is unconditional.

We may not always feel God’s *agape* love. Perhaps we don’t feel it because what’s most loving at the time is to protect us instead of giving us what we ask. To illustrate it with an earthly example, your children might want candy, and because you say no, they don’t feel like you love them. On the contrary, you deny them the candy because you do love them and don’t want them to have too much sugar.

God might deny us something we ask for because His answer is what we need, might not be what we want, but what we need. We may not feel that it is love from God because we feel afraid that God does not love us. In reality He loves us more than we know!

Fear is the antithesis of faith. It also tends to hide love. What do you need from God to experience more of His love for you? What’s one step you can take to increase your faith and decrease your fear?

#### APPLICATION:

**Morning Prayer:** Father, I pray today that my children will grow to love You with all of their hearts, minds, souls, and strength (Matthew 22:37).

**Bedtime Question:** How does God show you that He loves you?

#### Additional Reading:

Read the following verses. What do these passages teach us about love?

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

1 John 4:7 – 5:4





## Education & Youth

Each year thousands of High School seniors finish their senior year reflecting on their accomplishments and achievements during their academic and athletic years. Here at St. Paul we reflect on having our high school seniors as part of our Church Family and growing in their faith alongside us and celebrate them during an upcoming worship service.



This year the celebration will look different. And as we continue to plan for the reopening of our church and plan our Graduate Celebration the Board of Education would like to acknowledge our High School Graduates:

L to R:

Parker

Tracy

Morgan



### Camp Okoboji News

#### Camp Okoboji -sessions cancelled but prayers are not!

Although this pandemic is changing normal schedules and events, it can only strengthen the hope and faith we have in Jesus! So even though our youth cannot be with Jesus at the Lake this summer, he is still with each of them in their hearts. Please pray with us for the youth as well as the camp during this abnormal time.

Camp Okoboji will still be renting out the family cabins. If you would like more information about renting a family cabin, please call the camp at 712-337-3325.



### Get Your Reward!

There's nothing more rewarding than seeing a great group of youth gather for a meal and activities. Although we're there to guide them, many times they help enlighten us adults too!

We are looking for people to join our board as well as have an opening for a Vice chair to start in July. Time commitment is what you are willing to do, but our meetings are once a month and we have meals/activities once a month for 7-8 months. (All events on stand by until pandemic lifts).

For more information, please contact Carla Murphy.

## Education & Youth

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic adding restrictions and sending us into isolation, Marcus Nelsen, a youth from St. Paul and Thomas Wilson, Director of Family Life Ministry (along with a youth from St. Paul – Sioux City) represented the Iowa District West LCMS at the Lutheran Youth Fellowship Leadership Training in St. Louis, MO March 12-15, 2020.



During the two and a half days of training the participants learned valuable lessons to not just grow in their faith, but to grow as leaders at home, school, and within their church. Participants were lead through many team building activities, attended daily chapel, in groups they lead one chapel, and learned how to write a devotion.

Their four leadership training sessions included:

Promises Delivered – We trust God, our good gift-giver, out of response to all the good things He gives us and that He keeps his promises. Learning all that Jesus taught is a life-long endeavor.

Managing Tensions – Life has examples of good and bad tension. Good tension can be fruitful and productive, but bad tension can be damaging and destructive. An important part of being a mature person is juggling tension and setting priorities.

Know Who You Are – What is your identity in Christ? At home? In the church? Recognize the value of your story!

Action Plan – Make a plan to take what you learned and implement it at home and at church.

Participants were part of a send off blessing on Sunday morning before they packed up and headed back home. You were able to see how the 3 days of meeting and learning formed so many friendships in such a short amount of time. For the roughly 70 participants of the training we all left a little more uplifted, a little more focused and with a few more friends and brothers and sisters in Christ.

Part of the training was to write a devotion, here is a small devotion for you written by Marcus Nelsen.

### Trust in God

Based on Psalm 78:7 - NIV

“Then they would put their trust in God and would not forget his deeds but would keep his commands.”

Heavenly Father, we praise you for all you have given us, we thank you for bringing us together, we pray to you for guidance and understanding, Amen.

If you imagine a worker on top of a tall building working on the side you would see them wearing a safety harness. The worker needs to trust the harness to keep them from falling in order to do his job. This relates to the trust we need to have with God in order to be strong in our faith. God protects us and keeps us from falling deeper into sin. Without God, we have nothing to stop us from falling like the worker would without the harness. Psalm 20:7 - NIV, “Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God.” We don't need to put our trust into things such as a harness but rather put our trust into God. Why do you think the Lord tells us to trust him? Has there been an important point in your life that you have needed to trust God?

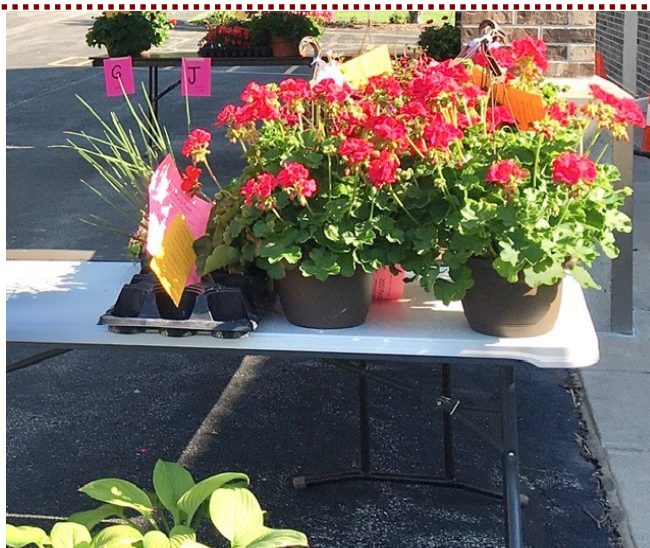
Lord, we pray to you, thank you for everything you have given us Lord, we put our trust in you, Lord in your name we pray. Amen.

## Women's Ministry

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) still has many grants to be funded. You may send a check for your mites to the church office and we will put it in the mite box, or continue to save them and when we are able to worship together again you may place them in the large mite box.



Thank you for continuing to save those mites!



**Solomon 2:11-12a** “For lo the winter is past, The rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth, the time of singing has come.”

**Thank you** for purchasing plants from the Lutheran Women in Mission at our annual spring sale held May 9th. Although the plants got a bit of a chill Saturday morning outside under the canopy, we all enjoyed the sunshine and the smiles behind the masks. It was good to touch base with so many friends. As an added Mother's Day treat the Women's Ministry gave delicious cookies from the Dutch Oven Bakery with Vicki Roach's artful touch.

Thanks for making this sale a good success. We had more customers this year and sold 188 items, including 33 hanging baskets, 29 flats, 44 geraniums, many accent, perennials and miscellaneous plants. We hope these flowers bring joy and remind you of God's miraculous creations.

We appreciate your support for our missions, in the state of Iowa and around the world, through which the Lutheran Women in Mission show the love of our Lord Jesus Christ.



# Women's Ministry

## LWML National 2019–2021 Mission Grant #10 — \$58,000 Ministry in Motion at Trinity in Mobile, AL

Trinity Lutheran School, modeled after the ministry of Rosa J. Young, has remained a stronghold of Christ centered education in a community dealing with inter-generational poverty and the challenges of urban living. Today Trinity serves 200 students from infants through fifth grade, and reaches another 45 students daily from four public schools through its afterschool program and Good News Bible Club. Daily prayer, chapel, and devotions help children, many from unchurched homes, develop spirituality in knowing God loves them. Grant funds are needed to purchase a handicapped accessible church bus for school children, elders, neighbors, and church members to participate in church and school ministries.



## LWML Iowa West District Convention

Virtual Convention June 19, 2020:

**ONLINE NOW:** Go to <http://idwlcms.org/lwml.php> where you will find the:

- convention manual
- a link to the Proposed Mission Grants video
- all Important Delegate Voter Information



Plans are moving right along, and we look forward to sharing this virtual experience on our new YouTube channel -  
LWMLIowaWestDistrictSocial

June 19th Virtual Convention Schedule:

1 pm Convention Highlights- Mites in Action, Keynote, Bible Study, etc.

3 pm Voting Results revealed- election, grants, and bylaws

# Women's Ministry

**LWML Mite Update:** as of 4/30/20

**2019-2021 National Mission goal:** \$2,100,000.00

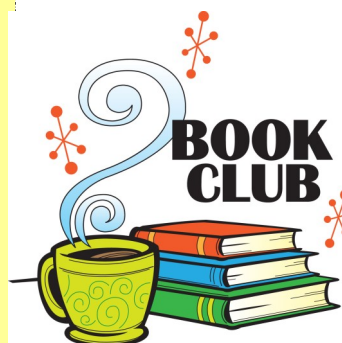
**Amount Received:** \$1,186,352.00

**Amount Needed:** \$913,684.00

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

**FAMILY SERVICE ~** Our quilters are going to resume quilting at the church this month. We will be quilting on June 11th and June 25th from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Please do not feel obligated to come if you are not comfortable doing so. We may be a small group, but we want to resume for those who are ready to return. Bring a sack lunch if you decide to join us.



## BOOK CLUB

### "Book to Know to Help You Grow"

Our next discussion has been changed to July 9 at 7:00 pm at Janelle Swenson's home to discuss "The Masterpiece" by Francine Rivers. We will also be choosing our books for the next year. Send your suggestions to Connie Lastine.

The Barnes and Noble description of this book: "*The New York Times* best-selling author of *Redeeming Love* returns to her romance roots with this unexpected and redemptive love story, a probing tale that reminds us that mercy can shape even the most broken among us into an imperfect yet stunning

masterpiece. A successful LA artist, Roman Velasco appears to have everything he could possibly want—money, women, fame. Only Grace Moore, his reluctant, newly hired personal assistant, knows how little he truly has. The demons of Roman's past seem to echo through the halls of his empty mansion and out across his breathtaking Topanga Canyon view. But Grace doesn't know how her boss secretly wrestles with those demons: by tagging buildings as the Bird, a notorious but unidentified graffiti artist—an alter ego that could destroy his career and land him in prison. Like Roman, Grace is wrestling with ghosts and secrets of her own. After a disastrous marriage threw her life completely off course, she vowed never to let love steal her dreams again. But as she gets to know the enigmatic man behind the reputation, it's as if the jagged pieces of both of their pasts slowly begin to fit together . . . until something so unexpected happens that it changes the course of their relationship—and both their lives—forever."

Date	Hostess	Book
July 9, 2020, 7 pm	Janelle Swenson	"The Masterpiece" by Francine Rivers

***June 2020 Service Roster - If you are not comfortable serving, you are not obligated.***  
*Please call the office and we will find a replacement for you.*  
*If we resume with only one in-person service at 10:00 am, the 8:30 people are responsible to serve.*

	<b>June 7 8:30</b>	<b>June 7 11:00</b>	<b>June 14 8:30</b>	<b>June 14 11:00</b>	<b>June 21 8:30</b>	<b>June 21 11:00</b>	<b>June 28 8:30</b>	<b>June 28 11:00</b>
Organist	Ellen Sander	Ellen Sander	LaDonna Osborn	LaDonna Osborn	LaDonna Osborn	LaDonna Osborn	LaDonna Osborn	LaDonna Osborn
Elders	Dave Schultz	Steve Johnson →						
Lectors	Jim George	Thomas Wilson	Mark Swenson	Thomas Wilson	Reiny Friedrich	Lisa Wilson	Reiny Friedrich	Lisa Wilson
Acolytes	Lydia	Keegan			Zach	Daniel		
Greeters	Mike West, Beth Henriksen	Keith & Carol Folkmann, Wayne & Marilyn Hagemoser	Mike West, Beth Henriksen	Keith & Carol Folkmann, Wayne & Marilyn Hagemoser	Mike West, Beth Henriksen	Keith & Carol Folkmann, Wayne & Marilyn Hagemoser	Mike West, Beth Henriksen	Keith & Carol Folkmann, Angie Esser family
Ushers	Reiny & Maureen Friedrich, Phil & Alberta Voge	Thomas & Lisa Wilson, Steve Vollstedt, Greg Gebhart →						
Coffee Fellowship								
Coffee Time Greeter								
Altar Flowers								
Offering Counters	Nancy & Larry Wiebel →							
Power Point	Cindy Baas	Sarah Fahrman	Cindy Baas	Sarah Fahrman	Cindy Baas	Sarah Fahrman	Cindy Baas	Sarah Fahrman
Sound Board	Tom Baas	Ben Fahrman	Tom Baas	Ben Fahrman	Tom Baas	Ben Fahrman	Tom Baas	Ben Fahrman
Altar Guild	LaDonna Osborn →							
Video Recorder	Merle Suntken →							
Collate Bulletins								
Valet Parkers								