

SEPTEMBER 2021

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

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT 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

WHAT NEXT?

What next? That's one of the most common questions in life, isn't it? We ask this question about many situations. Here are 3 examples. 1.) What next for The Cyclones? Will they achieve what experts believe they are capable of achieving in football this season? 2.) What next for our nation? When will we finally get through this pandemic? 3.) What next for our congregation? Where do we go in ministry staffing with the leaving of our Family Life Director, DCE Thomas Wilson?

The first two questions are beyond my realm of expertise. However, the third question I can begin to answer for you. When a church worker leaves a congregation of The LCMS to accept a call elsewhere, the common approach in the LCMS is to follow best practices, which necessitate a time of study and assessment to determine the next step(s). This assessment includes determining ministry needs and how those needs may best be met. As our DFLM (Director of Family Life Ministry) leaves us, the elders and I will begin facilitating this time of reflection and assessment.

Our DFLM full-time ministry position arose from our 10-year vision strategic plan; thus, we will revisit that plan to reflect on how well the DFLM position met the goals of the plan. We will assess how well the congregation did or did not support the DFLM position, including whether or not members' offerings to the church's general budget increased to the level needed to support the ongoing costs of a second full-time ministry staff member. We will also assess potential future ministry staffing needs and how those needs may best be met.

This assessment process will take a bit of time, a bunch of patience, and a boatload of prayer. Please join us in praying to Jesus to guide us as we continue His ministry to share the Lord's precious love and God's powerful Word with people of all ages in our congregation and our community.

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, September 5

ONLY ONE SERVICE

*10:00 a.m. Worship at church
with Holy Communion
And Livestreamed*

Sunday, September 12

RALLY SUNDAY

*8:30 a.m. Worship at church
And Livestreamed
11:00 a.m. Worship at church*

Sunday, September 19

*8:30 a.m. Worship at church
with Holy Communion
And Livestreamed
11:00 a.m. Worship at church
with Holy Communion*

Sunday, September 26

*8:30 a.m. Worship at church
And Livestreamed
11:00 a.m. Worship at church*

We have a wonderful outreach here at St. Paul with our preschool.

One of the best ways we can support our preschool's families is through prayer. We would like to have a church family praying regularly for each preschool family. That's it!!! Just pray! **The preschool enrollment is over 90, so we need many people to pray for these families!**



Evangelism

Camp Okoboji Fall work weekend is October 7-10. Come and help get the camp ready for the winter. There is outdoor work and indoor work. The Camp will provide housing and meals. Contact our Camp Okoboji Representative, Ron Coy at 231-1041 if you are interested or would like more information.



The board's only outreach mission project at this time is the Orphan Grain Train. Thank you to all who bring their used clothing and shoes. Please continue to bring these items as we are able to take them most Tuesdays. We also are still collecting the containers



for Food At First. Bring those cottage cheese containers, butter containers, anything with a lid that seals.

We plan to have a project for September and October--assemble layettes for OGT. We will complete this project by October 31. There are a couple of baby items that can be sewn from t-shirts, diapers and wash cloths. Samples of these will be displayed at church. The full list of items needed for layettes will be with the display. **The most needed items are diaper pins and rubber pants.** These are not easy to find but are available.

October 31 we will have our New Member Welcome and event.

If you have an idea for an outreach project, please share with the board. We want to share the Good News with others.



New Photo Directory

Planning on a family portrait? If you can wait a bit, we tentatively plan to update our church photo directory in February next year. It's been four years since our last photo sessions and some of our younger members are quite a bit bigger, probably from eating their vegetables. Scheduling will be flexible with an opportunity to include grandparents.

Board of Stewardship

Serving in your church. There sometimes can be no greater joy. I'm always amazed at how people who work full-time jobs, sometimes six days a week, spend their time that they could be relaxing and resting, serving their church.

Why is that? Why do people from all walks of life, who are sometimes exhausted from their day jobs, donate even more time and energy to their church?

I've heard volunteers tell me that serving in the church is the "highlight of their week" or that they "look forward all week to serving". Why is that?

Here are 5 reasons why someone serves at our church and on our team.

1. To grow in your relationship with Christ. When someone serves on our church team, they are surrounded with other believers that can encourage and strengthen their walk with Christ. They are hearing and seeing the Gospel lived out. More than half of the Ten Commandments deal with Loving People, and there are countless passages that instruct us as believers to serve one another. So, when we obey that, we can feel it spiritually. The Holy Spirit inside of you is doing the 'happy dance'. Isn't that amazing- that you can receive more out of serving, emotionally and spiritually, than those you are giving to?

2. It helps you discover your purpose and feel fulfilled. When you serve and give up your time and energy for someone else, you get emotionally and spiritually recharged. It gives more meaning to your life as a servant of Christ. Your volunteers have the opportunity in your environments to literally find purpose and meaning. They find fulfillment in putting the needs of others above themselves.

3. To use your skills and talents for the Kingdom. Each one of our volunteers have incredible skills, talents, and abilities. A lot of them are in day jobs that for one reason or another aren't allowing them to use all the gifts they have. A good note here- always take willing people.

In fact, sometimes, that works out better because your team could train them from the ground up. But we should also try to create opportunities on our team that allow people to flourish in the skills and gifts that God gave them. Your volunteers want to use their gifts and skills for the Kingdom, it's your job to *create opportunities* for them to be used.

4. Out of obedience to Jesus. *Mark 9:35 – "And He sat down and called the twelve. And He said to them, "if anyone be first, he must be last of all and servant of all"* Jesus commands us to serve others. When volunteers serve the local church through your team, they are being obedient to what Jesus has called them to.

5. To follow Jesus' example. *Philippians 2:5-7 – "Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men."* God sent His son to be the ultimate servant. When volunteers serve, they are following the very example Jesus set for us- giving of yourself for other people.

Wellness Team

The Importance of Health



How important to you is your health? For many of us, the pandemic has reminded us that other than our relationship with Jesus, our health is the most important thing we have in life. During the pandemic, we have taken great steps to try and protect God's gift of health.

Here at St. Paul, not that long ago, we started a Wellness Team to remind each of us about the importance of the gift of health that God entrusts to us. However, we often take that gift for granted, until we encounter health challenges or struggles.

Our Wellness Team exists to encourage our members in their efforts to protect God's gift of health. To do this, we would love to add a couple more members to our team! Do you care about health? Would you like to help us encourage our fellow members in their wellness walk? If so, you're just the right person to get involved in this important ministry at St. Paul!

If you would like to volunteer for our Wellness Team or to know more about what we do, please contact Wellness Team coordinator Connie Buss or Pastor Jenks. Thank you.

"Dear friend, I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all may go well with you, even as your soul is getting along well" (3 John 1:2).

As you know, the **Rose Parade in Pasadena CA** was cancelled last year. Now we are gearing up for a great trip from December 28, 2021 to January 4, 2022.

If you are interested, please complete the attached form and return to me. (We have the form in the office.) If you know of someone who would be interested, please share this information with them.

Fun Fact: All LWML members are eligible for a \$500 gift toward the cost of the trip. It is a once-in-a-lifetime grant per individual.

Any questions? Please contact me

Ellie Menz, ellie@iowadistrictwest.org

515-370-1159



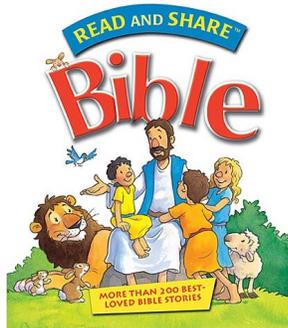
Education and Youth

Let's Get FIRED UP for Fall!

The first day of Midweek is scheduled for Wednesday, September 8th!

Make sure to mark your calendars for Sunday, September 12th for our Fall Rally Day! We open up our Sunday School year with handing out Bibles to the new 3 year-old's, 3rd graders and 7th graders!

We are looking forward to a great year!



UPCOMING LYF EVENTS

The Board of Youth is excited to announce some of the activities we have planned this year!

- Chocolate Olympics
- Pumpkin decorating/carving
- Canvas Name Art
- Bowling
- Blanket/Pillow making
- Youth Sunday
- Blessing Bags for YSS youth
- Project Sunshine
- possible lock-ins

LYF is held the 2nd Wednesday of the month after midweek unless announced otherwise (like September). *please note there may be changes in activities/protocols depending upon Covid and the Delta variant.



Mark your calendar for goblins and ghouls.... and FUN!!!!

Dust off your best costumes and make plans to join the Board of Education and the community for Trunk-or-Treat 2021 on Reformation Sunday, October 31st from 1:30 – 3:00 PM.



Sunday School donations will go to purchase spools of thread for Trinity Lutheran Church Quilters in Algona, IA. Learn more about TLC's mission at <https://www.trinityalgona.org/tlc-quilters>.

Education and Youth

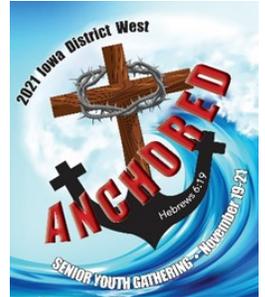
ATTENTION YOUTH AND PARENTS!

Hey youth! Let's go to the IDW Youth Gatherings this fall!



“Idol Talk” is the theme for youth in grades 6-8. It will be held October 23-24 at the Sheraton West Des Moines. Cost is \$150.

“Anchored” is the theme for the Senior Youth Gathering for grades 9-12. It will be held November 19-21 at its new location at the Holiday Inn at the airport in Des Moines. Cost is \$235.



Both gatherings will have speakers, music, games, break out discussion rooms and more!

Registration for the Junior Gathering is open NOW and due back to the Board of Youth by September 19 so we can send in as a group. You can get a copy at the mid-week/LYF kickoff on September 1 or by contacting Carla Murphy. Registration for the Senior Youth gathering will open soon so look for more information to come.

The Board of youth has funds available to help families with the costs. We usually carpool there and back. If interested don't wait! - contact Carla Murphy.



LYF Chocolate Olympics

The Board of Youth is happy to announce that we will resume our activities by hosting our first LYF Chocolate Olympics on September 15 after midweek for grades 3-8. Look for an email or announcements for details.

Yum, yum! And fun, fun!

Highlights from NYG Bingo fundraiser on August 14..... We raised over \$500. Thank you to everyone who participated. We hope you had as much fun playing as we did hosting!



Women's Ministry

Don't Miss these upcoming LWML Events!

Oct. 9- Boone Zone Fall Rally. More details, including registration and a carpool sign-up will be posted for the Rally in Jefferson.

Oct. 23- Iowa West District Retreat at Mission Central. Registration information should be in the next Iowa West District eNews. We will also have a sign-up sheet for those who wish to carpool.

FAMILY SERVICE ~

We plan to continue our regular quilting time of 10-2 on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays in Sept. Sept. 9 will be our Thrivent Action Team day, so wear your Thrivent t-shirt if you have one. Please join us and bring your lunch if you are comfortable doing so. Thank you.

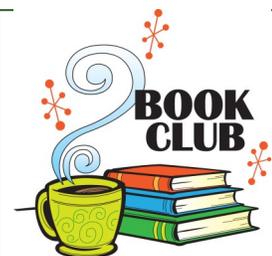


Start preparing your heart to hear how LWML is fully dedicated to serving Him, by serving His Church at home and abroad during the annual **LWML Sunday, Oct 10.** Don't forget to bring your change for the noisy offering.



All ladies of St. Paul are invited

to attend an afternoon snack social on Sunday, Oct 3, 2-4 pm at Breanna Wetzler's house (1302 Meadowlane Ave in Ames). Get to know others during this come and go event. Light snacks will be provided.



“Book to Know to Help You Grow”

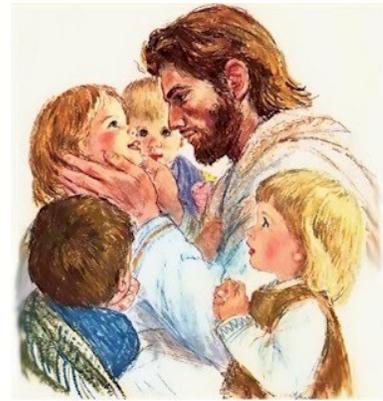
Our next book club will meet Sept. 9, 7 pm here at the church to discuss “Beneath a Southern Sky” by Deborah Raney. The Amazon description says: “Her Second Husband Healed the Sorrow of a Tragic Loss. Her First Has Just Returned from the Dead. Which Man Has the Right to Claim Daria’s Heart?”

Anyone is invited to join us for the discussion on this intriguing book.

Date	Location/ Hostess	Book
Sept 9, 2021, 7 pm	Church Fellowship Hall	“Beneath a Southern Sky” (The Camfield Legacy Book 1) by Deborah Raney
Nov 11, 2021, 7 pm	TBA	“The Last Train to London: A Novel” by Meg Waite Clayton
Jan 13, 2022, 2 pm	TBA	“The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek” by Kim Michele Richardson
March 10, 2022, 7 pm	TBA	“Hidden Places” by Lynn Austin
May 12, 2022, 7 pm	TBA	“The Shot Caller: by Casey Diaz

St. Paul Lutheran Preschool September 2021 News

Train up a child in the way he should go;
and even when he is old he will not depart from it.
Proverbs 22:6



St. Paul Lutheran Preschool & EK begins its **18th year of ministry** on Tuesday, September 7 with 94 students enrolled. Eight classes that St. Paul teachers will share the love of Jesus with are as follows:

- M/TH & T/FR 2-Year-Old Class (Cub Class) Teachers: Mrs. Miguel and Mrs. Farmer
- M/TH & T/FR 3-Year-Old Class (Lamb Class) Teachers: Mrs. Jenks and Mrs. Leichty
- M/T/TH/FR 3 & 4's Class Morning and All Day (Bear Class) Teachers: Mrs. VanNostrand and Mrs. Beagley
- M/T/TH/FR 4-Year-Old Class (Lion Class) Teachers: Mrs. Brause and Mrs. Dacken
- M/T/TH/FR Afternoon 4-Year-Old Class (Afternoon Lion Class) Teacher: Mrs. Dacken
- M/T/TH/FR Afternoon EK Class (Shining Stars) Teacher: Mrs. Dohrman

We thank the Preschool Board for helping plan **Preschool Sunday** on Sunday, September 26th. The children and their families will be invited to attend church and meet their prayer partners. Colorful Kona Ice and crunchy popcorn will be served. St. Paul has invited the fire fighters and police officers to drop by and say "hello".



We thank a donor for a **generous financial donation** given to the preschool this summer. This donation bought all the weekly "Jesus Time" take home sheets to be bought and to be sent home for each child each week for 94 children! The families will be able to read and talk about the Bible Story that has been shared in the classroom during the week.

Six teachers attended the **Iowa District West Early Childhood Conference** on August 6 called "Masterpiece in the Making." The 5-hour conference reminded us of how God the creator makes each of us wonderful!

Thank you for supporting the preschool ministry with your prayers, signing-up to be a prayer partner, serving on the Preschool Board, giving financial gifts, giving Thrivent Choice Dollars, and everything else you do for your church's mission outreach to young children and their families.



May God bless the **94 preschoolers and Early Kindergarten children** to grow in their faith as they attend St. Paul Lutheran Preschool.

September 2021 Service Roster

Due to the uncertainty of the Delta variant, the schedules have been (and will be) made up for only 3 months at a time. We will print those assigned for the current month below and also send out a reminder postcard. You are welcome to call the office if you have any questions. Thank you for serving!

	Sept. 5 10:00 am Only One Service	Sept. 12 8:30 am	Sept. 12 11:00 am	Sept. 19 8:30 am	Sept. 19 11:00 am	Sept. 26 8:30 am	Sept. 26 11:00 am
Organist	LaDonna Osborn	LaDonna Osborn	LaDonna Osborn	LaDonna Osborn	LaDonna Osborn	Praise Team	Praise Team
Elders	Phil Voge	Phil Voge	Lynn Dreyer	Phil Voge	Lynn Dreyer	Phil Voge	Lynn Dreyer
Lectors	Mark Swenson	Mark Swenson	Larry Wiebel	Mark Swenson	Larry Wiebel	Mark Swenson	Larry Wiebel
Acolytes	TBA			TBA	Preston		
Ushers	Jim & Sandy George, Merle Suntken, Jerry Schradle	Jim & Sandy George, Merle Suntken, Jerry Schradle	Dave Osborn, Larry Wiebel, Mike West, Inez Smith	Jim & Sandy George, Merle Suntken, Jerry Schradle	Dave Osborn, Larry Wiebel, Mike West, Inez Smith	Jim & Sandy George, Merle Suntken, Jerry Schradle	Dave Osborn, Larry Wiebel, Mike West, Inez Smith
Greeters	Katie Friedrich, Mark & Janelle Swenson	Katie Friedrich, Mark & Janelle Swenson	Tanny Latuska, Bud & Thelma Voetberg	Katie Friedrich, Mark & Janelle Swenson	Tanny Latuska, Bud & Thelma Voetberg	Katie Friedrich, Mark & Janelle Swenson	Tanny Latuska, Bud & Thelma Voetberg
Coffee Greeter		Judi Charlson		Judi Charlson		Judi Charlson	
Offering Counters	TBA						
Power Point	Cindy Baas	Cindy Baas	Julie Coy	Sarah Fahrman	Becky Jackson	Sarah Fahrman	Julie Coy
Sound Board	Tom Baas	Tom Baas	Greg Van Nostrand	Ben Fahrman	Greg Van Nostrand	Ben Fahrman	Greg Van Nostrand
Camera	TBA	TBA		TBA		TBA	