

MARCH 2024

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

LORI JENKS, PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR
PRESCHOOL- 515-233-1914

A Note from Your Pastor

Friends in the Lord,

Easter is so much more than lilies and new outfits. Easter is so much more than artificially-colored grass-filled baskets. Easter's meaning is far greater than colored eggs and jelly beans. Easter is the good news that Jesus Christ wins the victory over death, and Satan, and sin! Easter means the victory is won by God's own and only-begotten Son! Easter is the celebration that Christ has risen! Easter brings us the certainty that we too shall rise, after we die, and shall live in eternal life with Jesus – because Jesus suffered and died to pay our sin's price, and rose victorious over death for each of us!

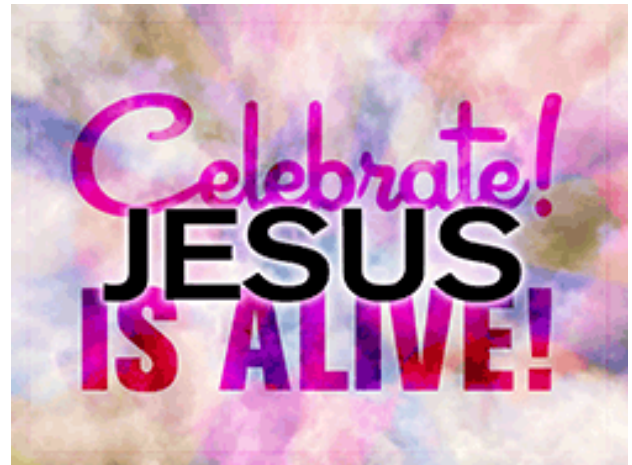
This Easter we will follow our traditional schedule, beginning with the Easter Sunrise Service at 7:30 a.m. This early morning service includes our amazing Easter processional, when all of the components that were removed on Good Friday are carried back into the sanctuary, together with many magnificent Easter lilies to adorn the Lord's house and to fill the air with their fabulous fragrance. Easter breakfast will follow the Sunrise Service in the fellowship hall, so you can gather with your friends in Christ

for a very special Easter morning meal. At 10:00 a.m. we will hold our Easter Festival Worship.

Death will be defeated by God's Almighty Son! We will celebrate Jesus' triumphant emergence from the tomb! Through Christ, we shall, in His perfect time, emerge from the darkness of the tomb one day ourselves. Through Jesus Christ each of us, in God's perfect time, will emerge from the darkness of this life of sin, sorrow, suffering and death to be in perfect peace in eternal life with Christ.

Prepare to join us as we worship to celebrate the victory of Easter!

Your proclaimer of our Lord and Savior,
Pastor Jenks



Inside this issue:

A Note from Your Pastor	1	Education and Youth	8-9
Worship Schedule/Board Of Directors/Elder Board News	2	Women's Ministry	9-10
Easter Lilies/Prayer Vigil/Breakfast	3	Birthdays & Anniversaries	11
Stewardship & Wellness	4-6	March Service Roster	12-13
Evangelism, Board of Education	7	Board of Directors Minutes	14-15
		American Heritage Girls	16
		Preschool News/Enrollment	17-18

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, March 3

10:00 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion

Wednesday, March 6

Lent IV

7:00 p.m. Worship Service

Sunday, March 10

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

Wednesday, March 13

Lent V

7:00 p.m. Worship Service

Sunday, March 17

10:00 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion

Wednesday, March 20

Lent VI

7:00 p.m. Worship Service



Sunday, March 24

Palm Sunday

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

Thursday, March 28

Maundy Thursday

7:00 p.m. Worship with Holy Communion

Friday, March 29

Good Friday

7:00 p.m. Worship Service

Sunday, March 31

Easter Sunday

7:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion

10:00 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion



Elder Board News

The Elders and Trustees are working together to install a security camera system in our building. We have contacted three vendors and have received competitive bids around \$5000 for a basic four camera system. Information will be presented to the Board of Directors and also at the next Voters Meeting.

Pastor has submitted the paperwork for an intern DCE to Concordia University and we should receive a response in April. If successful, the intern would start this summer.

EASTER EGG HUNT

The Board of Evangelism will hold an Easter Egg Hunt for children ages 2 to 10 at 9:30 on Easter Sunday, on the lawn, if weather permits. In the event of bad weather, we will have a plan B. Children are to bring their own containers.





EASTER PROCESSIONAL

There will be a sign-up sheet for the Easter Procession on the bulletin board. Please sign up by Palm Sunday, March 24th. Many men, women and children are needed. More information for those volunteering will be forwarded to you.



Lilies will be placed around the sanctuary for Easter Sunday. They are not only beautiful to look at and to smell their lovely fragrance, but they are a wonderful way to show glory and honor to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Lilies will be available for the price of \$14.00.

The deadline to order will be Sunday, March 24th.

Watch the church bulletin for the Lily Order Form or forms are available in the Church Narthex.

HOLY SATURDAY PRAYER VIGIL

Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. Colossians 4:2 NIV

The prayer vigil will be on **Saturday March 30 from 6 a.m. to 3 p.m.** Please sign up for 15 minutes. We want to focus on prayers for guidance for our congregation's future direction; asking God's favor and blessing. We will also take many prayer requests ahead of time. There will be missionaries to pray for, prayers for our nation, leaders, and prayers to further God's kingdom. We will provide some preprinted prayers to assist you in this vigil also. Together we will be spiritually enriched and drawn to his throne in humble obedience.



Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Romans 12:12-13 NIV



Join Us For Breakfast

Mark your calendars and join us for Easter Breakfast at St. Paul immediately following sunrise service on Easter morning, March 31, 2024!

Sponsored by LWML with assistance from St. Paul Youth, the event is an opportunity to join members and friends in fellowship. This sit-down, served meal includes a menu of egg casserole, sausage, fruit and plenty of sweet treats!

As always, there are several ways you can help contribute in making this event a success! Please watch your email or check the table in the Narthex for the sign up form outlining opportunities to contribute with supplies and preparation needs. All ages are welcome to help, as many hands make light (and fun!) work.

A free will offering will be collected, as proceeds provide sponsorship for LWML and LCMS Youth Gathering conference attendance.

If you have any questions, please contact Angie Fritz.

STEWARDSHIP

"They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share" (1 Timothy 6:18).

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

February 10, 2024

How's your family doing these days?

We have all experienced changes and for some of us, uncertainty. Perhaps you have made some changes in your life. Some of us have re-evaluated our priorities.

We pray your church family is a top priority. Previously during the pandemic we realized how difficult life can be when we cannot be with those we love. Families need each other.

Just as your family works together and needs each other, your St Paul family needs you too.

At St. Paul, from time to time, we have had changes and adjustments.

- For certain: our God never changes
- Our mission never changes.
- We must continue to share God's love and gospel.
- In order to do that we depend on our family.

March 3 is Stewardship Sunday when Rev. Keith Haney will deliver the message and remind us that:

"We Are Ambassadors for Christ" (2 Corinthians 5:20)

"We Are God's Fellow Workers" (1 Corinthians 3:9)

"We Are To Be Ready To Generously Share" (1 Timothy 6:18)

March 10 is Time, Talent, and Treasure Sunday (Loyalty) when we

- Volunteer for the many opportunities to serve God here in this family.
- No amount of time or service is too small
- Prayerfully consider how you can serve
- Prayerfully consider your monetary commitment for the year 2024-25

The top portion of the pledge card should be removed and kept for your own reminder and records. The bottom two portions should be filled out, signed and returned on Sunday, March 10th. The signature is simply our way of knowing that you completed a pledge card—the church office and the Stewardship Committee does not keep a record of your pledge. Only the total amount of all pledges is used to help plan the church budget.

If you are not able to attend on March 10th, please fill out these forms and mail to the church at 610 15th Street Ames, IA 50010 or place them in the offering box in the narthex no later than March 24.

Thank you for helping with this important process in planning for the work, service, and budget of St Paul.

The Stewardship Team,

Gretchen Zitterich Chr., Larry Wiebel, Dennis Dobberke

STEWARDSHIP

FAITHFUL PARTICIPANTS IN GOD'S MISSION

"WE ARE TO BE GENEROUS AND READY TO SHARE"

shared by G. Zitterich from the District website

"They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share" (1 Timothy 6:18).

Of all the gifts God gives, money is usually the one we struggle with the most. Unfortunately, many of us allow money to become the center of our lives and the pursuit of more money becomes the greatest passion in life. What we choose to do with our money and possessions reflects our sense of values and the depth of our faith and trust in God. For some of us, money represents power, security, and happiness. For some, the accumulation of money is an end in itself. Jesus warns us in Matthew 6:24, **"You cannot serve God and Money."** When God is our treasure, money not only provides for our needs but is used to extend God's Kingdom and to help those in need. Money, like all other things, is a gift from God. **God Owns Our Money.** **"You shall remember the Lord your God, for it is He Who gives you the power to get wealth, that He may confirm His covenant that He swore to your fathers, as it is this day"** (Deut. 8:18).

God provides us with both our abilities and means of employment to enable us to earn the money we need to provide for our needs and to support God's mission. **We are to receive and use God's gifts with thanksgiving** (Philippians 4:6) and be cognizant of the fact that, as **God's stewards**, we are caretakers of His money, which is only on loan to us. With the help of the Holy Spirit, we acknowledge that all we own belongs to God, and we begin to understand our responsibility to be faithful in the management and use of what we have been given. As the servants were accountable to their Master in the Parable of the Talents (Matthew 25:14-30), we are accountable to God for how we use our money. Through faith, we will use God's money in the way He directs us to use it. God may choose to give us extra money not to raise our standards of living, but to raise our standards of giving.

Generous and Ready to Share

It has been said we have been given two hands so we can receive with one and give with the other. It is nice to be on the receiving end, but it is even more meaningful to be the giver. Jesus said, **"It is more blessed to give than to receive"** (Acts 20:35). Giving should not be an onerous obligation, but an opportunity. Through our giving, God is able to make an impact in our world. He uses our generosity to build His Kingdom, to help those in need, and to strengthen and enrich us as givers. Giving is something that does not often come naturally, but God's grace virtually compels a response to His love (2 Corinthians 5:14). The depth of God's love within us makes us cheerful givers who view giving as an opportunity, not an obligation. God's grace empowers us to be **"generous and ready to share."**





“Beyond the Table” is the March National Nutrition Month theme.

By Connie Buss

As a retired member of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, the theme makes me wonder what it is all about?

At the table, I love to talk about wonderful, tasty foods that nourish our bodies. I like to address the way a plate should look, with half of the plate vegetables, a quarter of the plate protein rich food (poultry, fish, lean meat, beans), and a quarter of the plate a starchy food (whole grain, potato, etc), with use of healthy fats (olive oil, canola oil, nuts, avocado, etc.). In addition, a glass of low/non-fat milk, and fruit on the side or for a snack. I love all the colors that can show up the table! God made such wonderful looking, tasty healthy foods to keep our body strong and able to do our daily tasks! I love the conversation and love that appear at the table as we share the bounty! What praise!

Yet, the logo is “Beyond the Table.” So, what is beyond the table?

My first thought is the planning that it takes to make the meal. What are the menus for this week? What do I need to purchase at the store to supplement what I have in my pantry/freezer? Do I have all the food groups covered? Am I spending my money wisely at the store? How can I do better? Making a list is important for me, but sticking to it is harder, don't you agree?

Preparing the food is also “Beyond the Table.” Consider preparing food in a safe manner (proper temperatures, clean utensils & working surfaces), cooking with low fat or healthy fat methods, making foods tasty with herbs and spices, using colors to enhance our enjoyment of the meal.

March makes me think of spring! Flowers and gardens! Should I plant a garden or pot some vegetables for my patio this year? Yes!!! Bring some flowers to the table to make it more fun to sit down together to eat, not in front of the tv or with our devices.

“Beyond the Table” makes me think of foods that I eat that are not at the table, too. Those nibbles, snacks, whatever you call them...do they add to the benefit of my body? Of course, I love desserts and fun foods, too! There, portion size, enjoying every bite is important for me. I might do better sitting down at the table to eat those, not wandering around, or watching tv, where I really might not be tasting and fully enjoying that yummy food.

Beverages should also be “Beyond the Table.” Water! Water makes up about 60% of our body weight! Keep it filled up!

In addition to healthy eating, “Beyond the Table” promotes being active, as you are able. Some people need to run, swim, others walk, others just march in place, do stretches and strengthening activities. Lots of choices. Our bodies are meant to move and the more I sit, the more I hurt. I need to make a plan to move almost every day, so that I can keep moving. So, what are you doing? Are you hurting when moving might make it better in the long run? Start small and find success in the little things to cumulatively create big successes!

Adequate, restful sleep, managing stress are also “Beyond the Table” thoughts to keep our bodies and minds healthy. Maybe do a self-check on those things, too.

So many parts of “Beyond the Table” to consider! I pray spring brings good weather, sunshine, flowers & lots of joy as we rejoice in the new life that Christ has given us in Him and Him in us.



Evangelism



March 6th —Chili Cookoff & Lenten Meal

Make a pot of your favorite chili for the Lenten supper. It is a fundraiser for Camp Okoboji. Vote for your favorite chili by donating to the camp. The chili with the largest donation will be the winner of a \$30 first prize. Join us for supper of chili, cinnamon rolls and chicken noodle soup for those who prefer something other than chili. Join in some camp fun, too.

Lenten Meals

March 6	Chili Cook Off	Evangelism
March 13	Sloppy Joes	- The Peterson Family and Friends
March 20	Pizza	- Women's Bible study group

Our MAPS Sunday is coming up in April. MAPS = Missionary Aid and Prayer Support. Please give the Evangelism Board names of a missionary you are supporting or would like to support. We will select several missionary families to support.



Education and Youth

VBS Director Needed



It won't be long and it will be time to start planning for Vacation Bible School! We need a director! Our church is wonderful with people signing up to help, but we need someone to step up as the director... or a couple of people could do it together. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Nancy Carper at 641-210-9298.

Board of Education Needs Members

Do you care about the Christian Education that our children receive? We need a few more members on the Board of Education. We meet during Kingdom Workers on the first Monday of each month, but if you can't make all the meetings that is ok. If you would like to know more, contact Nancy Carper at 641-210-9298.



Education and Youth

NYG BINGO AND SILENT AUCTION

On January 20 we had a full house of participants for the NYG Bingo and Silent Auction night. This fundraiser brought in almost \$4,000. A BIG Thank You to everyone and the various businesses who supported our youth in this event!



Register NOW for Summer Camp at Camp Okoboji! Early bird registration is now through April 1.

Register now for camp during Early bird registration and get #20 off each registration! No payment needed at time of registration, just complete the forms!

Summer youth camp schedules are:

Kid's Camp: grades K-2nd grade with an adult: May 31-June 2. Cost: \$140 adult, \$90 child.

Cub Week 1: grades 3-5. June 23-27. Cost \$310 (shorter week)

Jr High Week: grades 6-8. July 7-13. Cost \$375

Cub Week 2: grades 3-5. July 14-20. Cost \$375

Youth Week: grades 9-12. July 21-27. Cost \$375

For more information about Camp go to campokoboji.org.

If you need financial assistance, please see the display table in the narthex.

There are 3 different assistance programs to choose from that best suit your needs. One for a possible full scholarship from the Camp Auxiliary (deadline April 3); one from the District for up to half the cost and one from our Board of Youth for up to \$120 (based on number of requests, deadline March 30). For questions or more information contact Carla Murphy.



Education and Youth

THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone who helped support the NYG youth in their sub and bake sale fundraiser on Team Sunday. We started assembling orders at 7am and were done before Sunday School and Bible class! We hope you enjoyed your treats as much as we did making them.

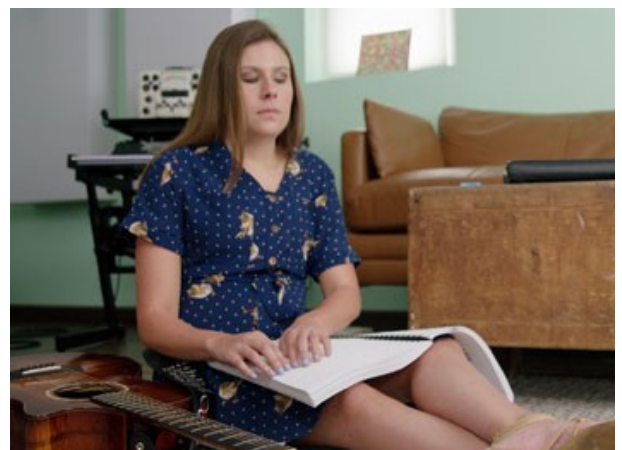


Women's Ministry

2023–2025 Mission Grant 4 — \$100,000- Fortifying Faith in Those with Vision Impairment

Lutheran Braille Workers (LBW) has the opportunity to reach individuals with visual impairment who live in spiritual darkness with the hope and salvation of Jesus Christ. There are millions of people around the world who are blind or visually impaired. They seek to strengthen their Christian faith while coping with isolation and dealing with physical, mental, and spiritual struggles. They often find it difficult to access Scripture-based reading materials.

This grant will provide LBW the opportunity to produce and add to their library 50 to 100 Scripture-based topical materials in Braille and specialized large print to help meet the spiritual and emotional needs of people who are visually impaired. Because LBW works with every Christian denomination, these materials would be available for outreach and evangelism at no cost to those who are blind or visually impaired regardless of faith or belief.



Church Worker and professional musician Brooke Pernice reading a devotional in Braille alongside her guitar. Having been Blind since birth, growing up in the church, and having earned her Master's Degree in church music, Brooke knows firsthand the challenges in finding rich, theologically sound, and Scripturally-based Christian resources in Braille and Large Print. Brooke's face reflects her experience of feeling God's love directly in her heart by reading the Scriptures with her fingertips!

Women's Ministry

LWML Mite Update: NEW MISSION GOAL

2023-2025 National Mission goal:
\$2,350,000.00



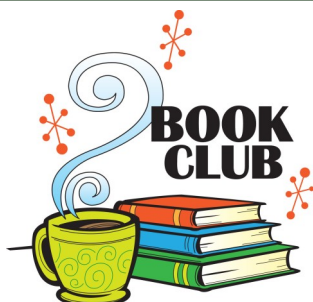
We normally collect mites for missions on the 1st Sunday of each month.

Place your Mites in the large Mite Box in the narthex. For more information about LWML go to www.lwml.org.

FAMILY SERVICE ~ Quilters will meet March 14 from 10 to 2 pm and March 28 from 10 to noon for Quilting. Our Family Service meeting will be March 28 at 1:00 pm. Bring a sack lunch and join us for the fun!

Are you a Thrivent member? Our Family Service Quilters need a few more people who would be willing to apply for the Thrivent Action Cards to purchase supplies for the quilters. It is very easy and someone will help you if you have not done it before. Please contact the office if you are willing to apply for a card. Thank you!

“Book to Know to Help You Grow”



Our book list for the next year is below. Our book club is open to all members of the congregation. Just read the book and show up for the discussion. Questions? Contact Connie Lastine at 515-292-4992. **At our May meeting we will be choosing books for the next year so please send your suggestions to Connie Lastine.**

At our March 14th Books to Know meeting we will be *discussing **The Wish Book Christmas** by Lynn Austin*. In January, our group enjoyed reading and discussing *If I Were You* by Lynn Austin. Lynn Austin has written a sequel with some of the same characters called *The Wish Book Christmas*. Our Books to Know group decided to read *The Wish Book for Christmas* instead of *Ben Hur* for our March meeting. We will **not** be reading *Ben Hur* this year.

Hope to see you all in March to discuss *The Wish Book Christmas* by Lynn Austin.

Your sister in Christ,

Connie

Date	Location	Book
March 14, 2024, 2:15 pm	St. Paul Fellowship Hall	<i>The Wish Book Christmas</i> by Lynn Austin
May 14, 2024, 7 pm	Northcrest Fireside Room	“The Witness Wore Red: The 19th Wife Who Brought Polygamous Cult Leaders to Justice” by Rebecca Musser

March 2024 Sunday Service Roster

Thank you for serving!

	March 3 10:00 am	March 10 10:00 am	March 17 10:00 am	March 24 10:00 am Palm Sunday	March 31 7:30 am Easter Sunday	March 31 10:00 am Easter Sunday
Organist	Ellen Sander	Zach Heilman	Praise Team	LaDonna Osborn	LaDonna Osborn	LaDonna Osborn
Elders	Greg Gebhart	Greg Gebhart	Steve Johnson	Steve Johnson	Steve Johnson	Greg Gebhart
Lectors	Glenn Crosswait	Jim George	Tom Baas	Marilyn Hagemoser	Reiny Friedrich	Matt Weiss
Acolytes	Elias Buttery		Sami Phillips		Addison Thomas	Max Vogel
Ushers	Lynn & Kim Dreyer, Linda Goldsberry, Tom Henriksen	Lynn & Kim Dreyer, Linda Goldsberry, Tom Henriksen	Lynn & Kim Dreyer, Linda Goldsberry, Tom Henriksen	Lynn & Kim Dreyer, Linda Goldsberry, Tom Henriksen	Lynn & Kim Dreyer, Linda Goldsberry, Tom Henriksen	Mike West, Ron Coy, Jerry Schradle, Matt Weiss
Greeters	Connie Buss, Katie Friedrich	Lindsay Roach, Katie Friedrich	Connie Buss, Katie Friedrich	Connie Buss, Katie Friedrich	Connie Buss, Katie Friedrich	Denny & Shirley Tice, Gretchen Zitterich
Valet Parker	Paul Knop	Tom Peter	Tom Baas	Jim George	Brent Peterson	Brent Peterson
Offering Counters	Larry & Nancy Wiebel	→				
Altar Guild	Gretchen Zitterich	Gretchen Zitterich	Connie Buss	Beth Henriksen	Judy Peter	Judy Peter
Power Point	Amy Carver	Katie Friedrich	Julie Coy	Breanna Wetzler	Cindy Baas	Julie Coy
Sound Board	Shaun Carver	Tom Peter	Glenn Crosswait	Shaun Carver	Tom Baas	Glenn Crosswait
Camera	Tom Baas	Harry Mundt	Matt Carver	Eric Phipps	John Murphy	

March 2024 Special Service Roster

Thank you for serving!

	March 6 7:00 pm Lent IV	March 13 7:00 pm Lent V	March 20 7:00 pm Lent VI	March 28 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday	March 29 7:00 pm Good Friday
Organist	Ellen Sander	Ellen Sander	Ellen Sander	LaDonna Osborn	LaDonna Osborn
Elders	David Schultz	Wayne Hagemoser	Steve Johnson	David Schultz	Keith Folkmann
Lectors	Larry Wiebel	Reiny Friedrich	Wayne Hagemoser	Lynn Dreyer	Keith Folkmann
Acolytes				Sam Fritz	
Ushers	Larry Wiebel, Ron Coy, Jerry Schrade, Matt Weiss	Wayne & Marilyn Hagemoser, Reiny Friedrich, Drue Sander	Pam & Harry Mundt, Glenn & Nancy Carper	Lynn & Kim Dreyer, Steve & Marlene Johnson	Mark & Janelle Swenson, Dean Ulrichson, Denny Tice
Greeters	Dick & Linda Peterson, Shorty & Claudia Riese	Paul & Adele Knop, Tom & Beth Henriksen	Tom & Judy Peter, Jerry Schrade	Glenn & Nancy Carper, Reiny & Maureen Friedrich	Dick & Linda Peterson, Keith & Carol Folkmann
Valet Parker					
Altar Guild				Judy Peter Karen Griffin	
Power Point	Sarah Fahrman	Katie Friedrich	Breanna Wetzler	Julie Coy	Tom Baas
Sound Board	Ben Fahrman	Tom Baas	Tom Peter		Cindy Baas
Camera	Eric Phipps	John Murphy	Matt Carver	Tom Baas	Harry Mundt



AMERICAN HERITAGE GIRLS

AHG Troop IA2016 January/February Recap

The past two months have been very exciting for the American Heritage Girls! On January 22, the PiPa unit made (and enjoyed) an entire meal for their cooking badge. The color guard also did a wonderful job and the younger girls worked on writing hopes and prayers for 2024. A group of 4 girls from the troop also worked on a service project for a local elementary school where they donated a mountain of snacks to students in need. From February 9th to February 10th, a group of 3 PiPas hosted a camp-in for the Explorer unit where they worked on earning the cake decorating badge! At a meeting on February 12, the Tenderheart and Explorer units also got to watch an instructor demonstrate how to decorate a cake while the PiPa unit got to hear from a guest speaker about international missions and share some dreams and ideas of their own about future missions they might want to do.



PiPas sit down for their meal!



The Color Guard on Jan 22.



So many snacks!



Girls work on decorating a cake!



Explorers are taught how to use fondant.