



Giggles and squeals, screams of "faster!", "let's go!", "more!" Sounds of children and their parents playing on a beautiful warm sunny day. These are the sounds of the St. Paul church grounds.

"Here boy!" "Good job!" "Have a treat!" "You love it here!" Beautiful words of love from the people that belong to the dogs at the off-leash park.

"Yes!" "Woot!" "Oh Yeah!" Shouts of joy between panting breaths from the basketball game being played by teenagers.

Mowing grass, sweeping of sidewalks, people looking for a good book, people grabbing something to round out their meal, car doors being opened and shut as clothes get put in the rubbermaid bins for the clothing closet.

People walking through and waving in the window as they do their morning walk. The mailman stopping in for a drink and to use the restroom and maybe even grab a piece of candy from one of the dishes on the desks here.

Shouts of, "I'm going downstairs to work for a while!" Comes from beautiful volunteers who swoosh in to work the clothing closet and get it prepped for the upcoming weekend.

"I've got some bags of food to drop off, is there a good time?" "I cleaned out my closets, I've got some clothes you might want!"

"I watched your service online! I felt like you were speaking right to me!"

"I'm going to run the offering from yesterday!" "I'll be in the sanctuary for a while" "Oh my goodness, we had a good day yesterday!" "I'm really excited about our next get together!" "I've invited my neighbor!"

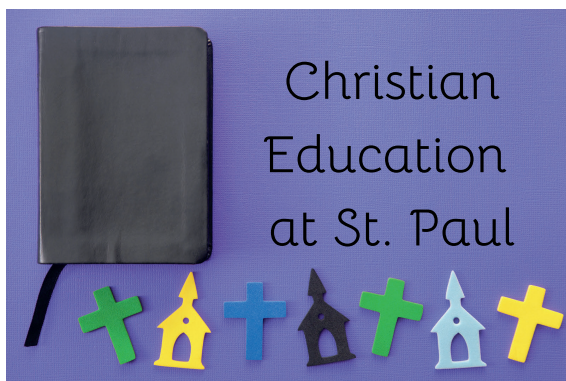
Saints of St Paul, honestly those are all normal phrases on a typical Monday morning at your church!

Why am I telling you this?

Because I want you to know that what you do MATTERS! I want you to know that people LOVE it here! I want you to know that this is a place that you should be PROUD of! I want you to know that you are MAKING A DIFFERENCE! I want you to know that the SPIRIT is alive and is blowing like crazy and not just on Sundays or Monday mornings! Just wait till you read some of the things that we will be doing in the next couple of months! You have a lot to HELP with!

You have a lot to look FORWARD to! You have a lot to INVITE our friends and family to!

Christ is ALIVE and so is YOUR CHURCH!



### **Sunday School**

There will not be Sunday School on Mother's Day, May 11<sup>th</sup>. The last day for Sunday School for this year will be May 25<sup>th</sup>. Keep your eyes out for the dates for our Vacation Bible School this Summer as we focus on Celebrations in the Bible!

### **Confirmation Class**

Confirmation will conclude for this year on May 4<sup>th</sup>. Please continue to pray for these students and their parents as they live out their baptismal promises.

### **Bible Study**

Pastor has started a Bible Study on the Pastoral Letters, 1 and 2 Timothy and Titus. There are two opportunities to attend and we really hope that you will join us! The Bible Studies are always fun and we all learn so much from them! Bible Study meets downstairs in the Bess Room on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm and Thursday afternoons at 2:00 pm.

### **Outdoor Worship**

Our first outdoor worship service for this summer will be held on June 1st! Bring a lawn chair or a blanket and let's enjoy the beauty of God's creation as we worship together. This is another great opportunity for you to invite someone to join us for worship!

### **Living Last Supper Part 2!**

Sunday May 18th during worship, come and hear the rest of the story! Pastor found a script where each of the disciples tell a short story of what happens to them after Christ is raised from the dead. The worship service on May 18th will have most of the same men from this year's Living Last Supper come forward and tell you their story, where they went to spread the gospel, how they lived their lives, and then how they each died. These stories will also invite us to join them at the table for Holy Communion. Please, invite your friends and family members who came to the Living Last Supper to join us for this special worship service!



### **Church Staff**

- Rev. Lisa Dietrich, Pastor
- Bev Fordham, Administrative Assistant
- Eric Coffey, Custodian
- Kyle Burkholder, Groundskeeper
- Deborah Garmers, Organist
- Michael Helgeson, Celebration and Praise Music Coordinator

### **Church Council**

- Sally Bloom, President
- Mary Conrad, Vice President
- Linda Lowery, Secretary
- Penny Post-Freeman, Financial Officer
- Karen Rocke, Outward
- Melissa Gramlich, Inward
- Mary Jane Moder, Upward
- Brian Sharp, Property



Evangelical  
Lutheran Church  
in America



## **Graduation!**

It is time to celebrate our graduates! Please contact the office and let us know who in your life is graduating by May 8<sup>th</sup> so we can share that with the congregation!



## **Mite Calendars**

It's not too late to bring in the money you collected from your Mite Calendars! We will be accepting them until May 11<sup>th</sup>. You can leave them on the usher stand and the Women will count them up! All money collected will be donated to the Boys and Girls Club of Central Illinois.

## **Women's Circles**

JoAnna Circle will meet on Thursday May 1<sup>st</sup> in the Bess Room at 7pm. We will be using the Gather Magazine for our study. We will then be off for the Summer and will resume in August.

Esther Circle will meet in the Bischoff Room on May 20<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am.

Quilters will meet in the Bischoff Room on Mondays May 5<sup>th</sup> and May 19<sup>th</sup> at 10am.

## **We Pray For:**

Floyd Rademaker,  
Shirley Barber, Rob Hackett,  
Andrea Williams, Susie Ney,  
Jeff Williams, Myrle Coffman,  
Kendra Tallman, Abby  
Mundwiller, Shannon Perales,  
Jim Chamberlain, Terri  
Montgomery, Charley  
Fairbanks, Joe Ferrie, Susan  
VanMoorlehem, Shirley  
Johnson, and Nina Marquart

## **Our Shut-ins:**

Floyd Rademaker, Nina  
Marquart, Tom Schreiner,  
Sam Kahl

## **Prayer Chain Contacts:**

Cindy Lee 309.635.9691  
Eileen Cunningham  
309.685.0720

## **Article deadlines**

Please submit articles for the weekly bulletin no later than 10am Thursday mornings.

Articles for the June newsletter need to be submitted no later than 10am on May 21st.

## **Notification**

Please if you are in the building for **any reason**, or **any length of time contact** the office so we know who is in the building.

Please place any documents that you have for Bev or Pastor Lisa **in the boxes outside our doors**. We don't want to get things misplaced when they are just set on our desks.

Thank you!



# Church Council Information

## **Council Highlights**

May 18<sup>th</sup> the men of the congregation will be presenting the Living Last Supper --part 2 during service.

The Summer Son Celebration with local Lutheran Praise Bands will take place on July 13<sup>th</sup> from 2-5pm. Hopefully outdoors in the sunshine!

Dates have been set for VBS this year. It will be held in the evening July 6<sup>th</sup> --July 9<sup>th</sup>

The audit for 2024 has been completed.

The entire building now has new air conditioning units just in time for summer.

Outdoor services are scheduled for June 1<sup>st</sup>, July 6<sup>th</sup>, and August 3<sup>rd</sup>.

## **Thank you!**

Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make all of the Lent, Holy Week, Living Last Supper and Easter services so special! I've heard so many good comments about how meaningful each of the worship services were! Thank you to all of you for helping out in both small and big ways! Pastor Lisa

## **Jerusalem!**

We did it!!! Through all your hard work and steps we made it to Jerusalem (although we got a little delayed and made it the Wednesday after Easter). Thank you for joining us on this journey! We hope you enjoyed seeing how far we went each week and that it made you walk just a little bit more 😊!

## **Worship Assistants**

5/4: Linda Lowery  
5/11: Larry Hansen  
5/18: Sue Borcharding  
5/25: Need volunteer

## **Fellowship Treats**

5/4: Vivian and Carol  
5/11: Lisa Snyder  
5/18: Open  
5/25: Open

## **Birthdays and Anniversaries**

5/2: Steve and Karen Rocke's  
Anniversary  
5/3: Rachel Biller  
5/9: Corey Crotz  
5/12: Elisa Demanes  
5/15: Quincy Johnson  
5/17: Penny Post-Freeman  
5/19: Alan and Cindy McLouth's  
Anniversary  
5/21: Roger Conrad  
5/22: Tyson Heerman  
5/23: Hal and Bev Fordham's  
Anniversary  
5/27: Mary Coffey  
5/27: Jodi Sharp  
5/28: Joe Ferrie  
5/30: Jason Biller

## **Counters**

5/4: Scott Lee and Julia  
Coffman  
5/11: Karen Rocke and Jodi  
Sharp  
5/18: Teri Chamberlain and  
Carol Frietsch  
5/25: Gerry Bloom and Hal  
Fordham



### **Mark Your Calendars!**

Mark your calendars now for July 19th to help with Peoria's Pride Fest! This is such a fun event and we need your help!

For the first time, St Paul will have it's own booth at the festival! Watch for details on how you can help and participate in this wonderful event!

### **It's time to Rock the Block!**

No, we are not going to do a remodeling show on HGTV! We are going to ROCK! Sing! Praise! Whoop it up! On Sunday July 13th St Paul's Praise Band and several other Lutheran Church Bands are having an outdoor concert here at St Paul!!!! Mark your calendars! Tell your neighbors! Tell your friends! Invite your enemies! Bring your mom and your kids! This event is called Summer Son Celebration!!!! Ask Karen Rocke or Brian Sharp how you can be of help and in on the fun! Pastor is ridiculously pumped about this event!

### **I'm Hungry! Let's Eat!**

Join your church friends and family for lunch at the Cracker Barrel! We will go following worship and Sunday School at 12:30 on Sunday May 25th. Please sign up on the bulletin board so that we can call ahead and let them know how many of us are coming!

### **Couples Club**

Calling all Couples it's time for us to get together again! We always have a great time! We will meet at the parsonage on May 20th at 6:00 pm. We will have a potluck - but here's the trick you must bring two things that go together for the meal (for example: chips and dip, sloppy joes and buns, root beer and ice cream...). Pastor has a game that we will play and a quick service project that we will work on together that night. Please sign up, so Pastor and Scott know how many to plan for. The Dietrich's will supply plates, silverware, and drinks. We can't wait for the laughs to begin!

### **The Church Mouse is**

located near the campus of Bradley University, The church Mouse is always looking for volunteers. Daytime only. Mon-Sat. Women and men, we need you! For more information, please contact Joan Ressler or Shirley Lewis at 309.673.2363

### **Pill Bottle Donations**

Matthew 25: Ministries accepts donations of empty plastic pill bottles for inclusion in shipments of medical supplies and for shredding and recycling. Our pill bottle program fulfills the dual needs of improving medical care in developing countries and caring for our environment. Acceptable collection items include prescription and over-the-counter pill bottles, large and small pill bottles, and pill bottles with and without secure caps. Please remove all labels and residue, wash and allow to completely dry, and place clean bottles in a ziplock bag. There is a collection basket located in the narthex.

## ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

May 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>27</b> 10:00am –11:00am Worship 11:15am –12:15pm Sunday School 12:15pm Confirmation	<b>28</b> 6:00pm –8:00pm Scouts (Bischoff)	<b>29</b> 10:30am –12:00pm TOPS 5:30pm Church Council	<b>30</b> 10:00am –2:00pm Faithful Creations 6:30pm Bible Study on Timothy	<b>1</b> 2:00pm Bible Study on Timothy 6:00pm VBS Planning Meeting 7:00pm –9:00pm JoAnna Circle (Heritage Room)	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 9:00am –12:00pm Clothing Closet Open
<b>4</b> 10:00am –11:00am Worship 11:15am –12:15pm Sunday School 12:15pm Confirmation	<b>5</b> 10:00am –12:00pm Quilting (Bischoff) 6:00pm –8:00pm Scouts (Bischoff)	<b>6</b> 10:30am –12:00pm TOPS	<b>7</b> 5:00pm –9:00pm Gems of the Prairie (Bischoff) 6:30pm Bible Study on Timothy	<b>8</b> 2:00pm Bible Study on Timothy	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b> Mother's Day 10:00am –11:00am Worship	<b>12</b> 6:00pm –8:00pm Scouts (Bischoff)	<b>13</b> 9:00am –12:00pm Northern Conference 10:30am –12:00pm TOPS 5:30pm Living Last Supper Practice	<b>14</b> 6:30pm Bible Study on Timothy	<b>15</b> 2:00pm Bible Study on Timothy	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 9:00am GEMS
<b>18</b> 10:00am –11:00am Worship 11:15am –12:15pm Sunday School 2:00pm Bess Room Reserved 11:30pm Bischoff Room Reserved	<b>19</b> 10:00am –12:00pm Quilting (Bischoff) 6:00pm –8:00pm Scouts (Bischoff)	<b>20</b> 10:30am –12:00pm TOPS 6:00pm Couples Club	<b>21</b> 6:30pm Bible Study on Timothy	<b>22</b> 2:00pm Bible Study on Timothy	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> 10:00am –11:00am Worship 11:15am –12:15pm Sunday School 12:30pm Supper Club- Cracker Barrel	<b>26</b> Memorial Day--Office Closed 6:00pm –8:00pm Scouts (Bischoff)	<b>27</b> 9:30am –11:30am Esther Circle 10:30am –12:00pm TOPS 5:30pm Church Council	<b>28</b> 10:00am –2:00pm Faithful Creations 6:30pm Bible Study on Timothy	<b>29</b> 2:00pm Bible Study on Timothy	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>