



April

2026

How does one write a last newsletter article? How do you sum up years of ministry? How can I truly express all of my love and gratitude to the hundreds/thousands of people who I have encountered through all the years? What can I say to tell you how much you all mean to me? What can I say that will truly share the excitement that I have for St Paul and your future? What is it that I want you to know more than anything?

Well, perhaps that last question is the easiest of them all. What I want you to know more than anything is that God loves you. You, my beloved, are deeply cherished by a loving God. That is it, in a nutshell. God absolutely loves You!

Now for the rest, trust in God. Trust that God has had St Paul for nearly 175 years. God has St Paul going forward. Trust that God will provide an amazing pastor for you. God is already preparing them for St Paul (though even they might not know it yet). This new pastor will lead you faithfully into the next phase of your life together. This new pastor will care for you, love you, and walk with you through all the highs and lows of life together. Pray for this new pastor and their family. Pray that the Holy Spirit will fill you all with deep love and gratitude and acceptance of the gift that you will be to each other.

Finally, thank you my dear ones. Thank you for the joy, the trust, the tears, the allowing Scott and I into your lives. Thank you for walking with us. Thank you for sharing your lives with us and inviting us into your lives and into your homes, and into your hearts.

Surely there will be tears in the days ahead, but I also hope that we will laugh and celebrate together! I'm excited to see what God has in store for all of you at St Paul! I can't wait to see how much more you might grow in love and hospitality and acceptance! There is always room to love more! And all God's children say,

AMEN!

In deep gratitude and love

Pastor Lisa



Holy Week Schedule

We have lots of opportunities for you to worship during the holiest of weeks in the church year! So please join your brothers and sisters in Christ for worship!

Palm Sunday Worship March 29th at 10:00 AM

Maundy Thursday Worship April 2nd at 10:00 AM and 7:00 PM
(Stripping of the Altar at 7pm service only)

Good Friday Worship April 3rd at 10:00 AM and 7:00 PM



Easter Worship

Join us for Resurrection Sunday Worship Service April 5th at 7:00 AM and 10:00 AM! You have two wonderful opportunities to join us for worship and to celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! Bring a friend and either come early or stay after for a wonderful breakfast from 7:45am - 9:45am being hosted by the Johnson family!

Pastor Lisa's Retirement Celebration

Invitations have been sent so it is time to celebrate all that is Pastor Lisa! On April 12th we will have a music filled worship service with preaching from Pastor Ron Poe and a sending blessing from Bishop Greg Busboom. Following the worship service we will head down to the Bischoff Room to enjoy a catered luncheon and cake. We have some fun up our sleeves to make us laugh as we wish Pastor Lisa well on her retirement.

Special Offering!

For Pastor's last Sunday she is asking that everyone bring either underwear, bras, or socks for the Clothing Closet! This ministry is near and dear to both Pastor's and Scott's hearts and would love to see a huge supply of items come in for the St Paul Clothing Closet! If you do not want to go shopping for these items, please consider giving an additional gift to the clothing closet by marking in the memo corner of your check - Clothing Closet! Thank you everyone for your generosity! The children will collect the items and place them at the altar during the collecting of the offering.



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

- Abigail Williams, President
- Michael Helgeson, Vice President
- Linda Lowery, Secretary
- Penny Post-Freeman, Financial Officer
- Karen Rocke, Service Ministries
- Mary Jane Moder, Worship
- Morgan Wertz, Education/ Youth
- Brian Sharp, Property



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

Sunday School

We continue to have Sunday School each week following worship until the end of May. If you have any questions or would be willing to volunteer to teach please sign up on the bulletin board or contact Morgan Wertz

309-635-0089



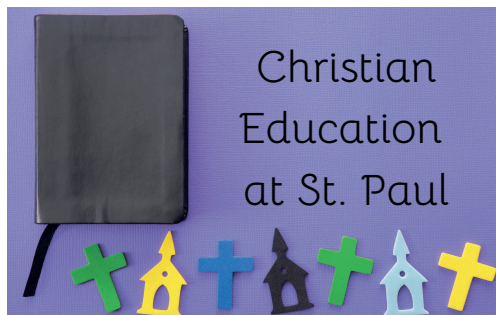
*St. Paul Lutheran Church
Womens Ministry*

Let's Grab Dinner Together!

Come and join your church family for dinner out at Last Chance Bar and Grill on April 20th! We will meet at 6pm at the restaurant which is located at 2713 W. Second Street in Peoria. Please sign up on the bulletin board so we can let them know how many people will be coming! Let's enjoy a night of good food and laughter together!

Join Pastor Lisa and Scott on their last night in Peoria at Jalapenos at Metro Center.

Pastor and Scott will be at Jalapenos on March 14th from 6:00-8:00 PM. If you would like to join them for dinner, drinks, or just stop in and wish them well, Pastor and Scott would love to see you!



Women's Circle Dates

Quilters: April 8th and 20th

JoAnna: No meeting in April

Esther: April 21st



*St. Paul
Fellowship Together*

St. Jude Fundraiser

Sunday, April 26th
Tress Rojas Winery
in Washington, Illinois

Dawn Helgeson's
St. Jude Run Fundraiser

Join us to create your own beautiful bracelets and support St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

**ST. JUDE
MEMPHIS
TO PEORIA
RUN**

Worship Assistants

4/5: Steve Rocke

4/13: Mary Jane Moder

4/19:

4/26:

Fellowship Treats

4/5: Mary Jane Moder and Annette Ferrie

4/13: Pastor's celebration Luncheon

4/19: Mary Conrad

4/26:

Birthdays and Anniversaries

4/1: Vivian Pfeifer

4/6: Elijah Bolden

4/8: Steve Snyder

4/8: Mary Jane Moder

4/9: Amber Lowery

4/10: Bev Fordham

4/12: Emily Terry

4/13: Maddie Biller

4/19: Michael Cook

4/19: Nikki Ewing

4/21: Joseph Heerman

4/27: Emily Coffey

4/28: Andrew Helgeson

4/30: Jaden Heerman

4/30: Roger and Mary Conrad Anniversary

Counters

4/5: Mike Coffman and Roger Conrad

4/12: Kyle Burkholder and Amber Lowery

4/19: Scott Lee and Julia Coffman

4/26: Karen Rocke and Jodi Sharp

Church Council Information

Council Highlights

The new picnic tables were delivered and thanks to Kyle Burkholder, Abigail and Halston Williams, Brian Sharp, and Scott Dietrich they were assembled. We appreciate their expertise and hard work and can't wait to enjoy them.

The new sound system has been installed and the people will be coming to do some adjusting and training this week.

Kreiling Roofing Company will be in this week to check a reported leak.

Two circuit breaker panels are scheduled to be replaced. The electricity from the panels will be shut down for six hours each.

Offering Income for January 2026: \$10,545.15
Offering Income for February 2026: \$13,159.35

MSP Update

Mark your calendars for a short meeting following worship on March 29th. At this meeting we will update you on our progress with the research and compilations we have from your feedback a few weeks ago. Also during this meeting, we will be asking for some more feedback. We will have 2 questions that we would like you to answer for us.

The first question is I expect a pastor to _____?

And the second is I will support the pastor by _____?

Please ponder these questions these next few days. We would like to have at least one response from every person. These cards will help us as we work to distinguish what leadership qualities we are wanting for our next pastor. There will also be an online form emailed out following the meeting for those who worship with us online or can't be here in person.

If you take cards home they must all be returned no later than April 5th.



We Pray For:

Shirley Barber, Rob Hackett, Floyd Rademaker, Susie Ney, Jeff Williams, Kendra Tallman, Abby Mundwiler, Jim Chamberlain, Terri Montgomery, Joe Ferrie, Nina Marquart, Boyd Conrad, Willie Miller, Rachel Jenks, and Steve Rocke.

Our Shut-ins:

Floyd Rademaker, Nina Marquart, Tom Schreiner and 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 May newsletter need to be submitted no later than **10am on April 20th.**

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 in the boxes outside our doors.

We don't want to get things misplaced when they are just set on our desks.

Thank you!