



OK, so it's out there! I announced on this last Sunday that one of my least favorite things is writing, in particular writing newsletter cover articles. I just always struggle with what to write, a theme, a devotion, never feeling like I have something so inspiring etc... Oh, and by the way, I do not say this to get positive feedback, just sharing here. I'm sure I worry far too much about it all. That is my "go to",

worrying!

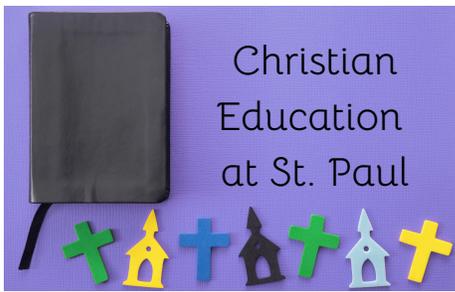
Isabella, when she was about three years old, told me that she could do my Easter morning sermon for me. Her sermon was short and to the point. I can't necessarily say that it was sweet. Her sermon simply. "Jesus died. Jesus rose. Jesus loves you. Now, Go Live Like it!"

Perhaps as I am nearing retirement, I have spent a lot of time worrying about, or at least thinking about, what you all have learned and heard through the years. Have you heard that Jesus died? Have you heard that Jesus rose? Have you heard that Jesus loves you? Have you heard, to now go and live like that is your truth?

The truth is that the Gospel isn't rocket science. As believers we live our lives in the joy of the resurrection which then moves us to love our brothers and sisters as God loves us. Now, living that out, isn't always as easy as that sounds. That is the reality of living life in a fallen and broken humanity. Nevertheless, as the tattoo on my wrist says, that is our calling. that is your calling. That is what I hope you know, more than anything.

Perhaps, even more succinctly, God loves you! Love one another! There is always room to love more!

Lovingly,
Pastor Lisa



Christian
Education
at St. Paul

Bible Study!

Pastor Lisa is leading a Bible Study on the Gospel of John. The Bible Study meets on Monday nights at 6:00 pm and on Wednesday afternoons at 2:00 pm. There is always room for more!

Affirmation of Baptism Service

On Sunday March 22nd four St. Paul youth will participate in an Affirmation of Baptism service. The four youth confirming their faith are Elias Fordham, Joe Gramlich, Aaron Simmons, and Annabelle Wertz. A reception for the youth and their families will be in the Gathering Space following worship. Please pray for these youth and their families as they each continue in their faith walk with Christ.

Sunday School

Sunday School is in full swing! We have purchased curriculum that will follow our text that is used during Sunday Services to reinforce learning. 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

Confirmation!

Confirmation Class will meet at noon on Sunday March 1st and 15th! The students will be finishing their work on the Small Catechism and prepping for their Affirmation of Baptism Service.

Youth Lock-In!

On March 7th at 7:00 Pastor Lisa will hold a lock-in for St. Paul youth and their friends. The youth will be having a great time together going out to eat, bowling, and then back at the church for devotions, games, movies, and hanging out together! Parents are chaperoning the event and will be drivers to our off church activities! The lock-in will wrap up with the youth attending worship in the morning! Please do not give them too hard of a time if they fall asleep during worship! 😊

Women's Dinner and a Movie

Lights, action, camera! Ladies, please join the St. Paul Women on Thursday, March 26 for their annual spring "out-on-the-town" night. This year, we will view the newly released Ryan Gosling film, "Project Hail Mary", based on an Andy Weir novel, at Willow Knolls 14 at 7:00 p.m. Prior to the showing, join the group at 5:30 p.m. for dinner at Peoria's Olive Garden. Don't forget to sign up on the sheet posted in the narthex, so we can secure restaurant reservations.



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



Women's Circle Dates

Quilters: March 2nd and 16th
JoAnna: March 5th
Esther: March 23rd
(change of day to Monday)



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

Mid-week Worship –

Taste and See!

Taste and See is our theme for this year's mid-week services. Worship will be at 5:15! This is a change from previous years that will hopefully allow those who prefer not to drive at night to be able to also attend worship.

Holy Week Worship

- Maundy Thursday 10am and 7pm (Stripping of the Altar will only be at 7pm worship)
- Good Friday 10am and 7pm
- Easter Sunday 7am and 10am



Mid-week Worship Change!

Due to the women's trip to Galena, one of our mid-week services will be moved to Tuesday March 17th! The times will be the same. Worship at 5:15 and supper following at 6:00. Please mark this change on your calendars, we would hate for you to miss out on worship and fellowship!

Game Day! Olympics Style!

Join your brothers and sisters of all ages in a fun and silly time of game play, Olympics Style! Pastor has come up with a wide variety of mayhem and craziness for a sure fire afternoon filled with laughter! Join us at 4:00 in the afternoon on Sunday March 1st, but please also sign up on the sheet in the Gathering Space or by calling the church office! You are asked to bring your favorite snack to share with the group! I can hear the Olympic anthem now! It's almost time to light the torch!



Worship Assistants

- 3/1: Steve Rocke
- 3/8: Sue Borcharding
- 3/15: AJ Dunn
- 3/22: Molly Guy
- 3/29:

Fellowship Treats

- 3/1: Karen Rocke
- 3/8: Lisa Snyder
- 3/15:
- 3/22:
- 3/29:

Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 3/3: Ameriah Heerman
- 3/5: Annette Ferrie
- 3/10: Matthew Coffey
- 3/12: Brian Sharp
- 3/17: Genevieve Biller
- 3/19: Jennifer Caraway
- 3/19: Sam Kahl
- 3/19: Gus Ulrich
- 3/20: Opal Ferrie
- 3/21: Sue Borcharding
- 3/23: Evan Conrad
- 3/29: Shari Johnson
- 3/30: Kyle Burkholder

Counters

- 3/1: Kyle Burkholder and Amber Lowery
- 3/8: Scott Lee and Julia Coffman
- 3/15: Karen Rocke and Jodi Sharp
- 3/22: Gerry Bloom and Hal Fordham
- 3/29: Brian Sharp and Mary Jane Moder



St. Paul
Fellowship Together

Funeral Planning Workshop

Pastor will be holding a Funeral Planning Workshop on March 12th beginning at 6:00 pm. We will meet in the Bischoff Room. This workshop is jam packed with information on funeral services and so much more! Pastor has spent years putting together this workshop and it has been deemed as one of the best possible resources by her colleagues! Please sign up on the bulletin board or by calling the church office so that pastor will have enough materials ready for the evening! If you are unsure, sign up, pastor is going to bake something yummy for us! Come and enjoy!



Council Highlights

The Easter Bunny Breakfast will take place March 28th. Everyone is invited, including adults.

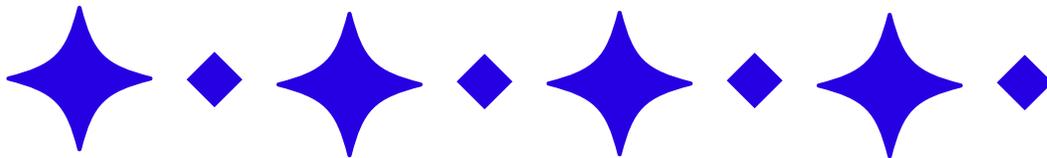
The council will be adding a line to the budget for supply pastors and a line for call committee expenses.

Property committee is looking into some loose tiles on the Fellowship Level hallway to determine the best way to proceed.

Starting with the April newsletter monthly giving reports will be published.

MSP Update

The Ministry Site Profile (MSP) committee has been working through the steps to get our site profile ready for the next step to finding our next pastor. We have gone through all of the purpose cards you have filled out and found our top purposes for St. Paul. We have also done some other research about the city and neighborhood. We are excited about the future of St. Paul! Our next step is that we will be sharing an update and asking for some more information from all of you. We will have this meeting following worship on Sunday March 29th. We hope to see you there!



Article deadlines

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

Articles for the March newsletter need to be submitted no later than 10am on March 23rd.

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.

Thank you!



We Pray For:

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

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

St. Paul Lutheran Church

invites you to
Breakfast with the Easter Bunny!

9am – 10:30am

Saturday March 28, 2026

1427 W. Lake Ave



**FREE continental
breakfast and photo with
the Easter Bunny**

RSVP's
encouraged by
March 23rd

