



Hello July! 2026

What to do with the lazy days of summer!

As we move into July, we look forward to vacations. For our youth, no more school. We can just lean back. And relax. Summer is also a good time for a good read. At St. Paul, you will spend July in the books of 1st and 2nd Timothy. The letter is addressed to Timothy in Ephesus. Much of the letter contrasts true and false teachers and prescribes a specific church order. Although the letter is addressed to Timothy. The author sometimes “talks past” him to a larger community that is to hear certain exhortations. The Letters to Timothy are significant for their emphases on the goodness of God, the goodness of the creation and living in the world rather than fleeing from it.

Timothy is one of the central evangelists in Ephesus, just a few miles inland from the coast of modern Turkey. As Paul reminds the church, they’re to stay true to the Gospel, even when circumstances make it difficult to know what that means. It is an admonition to model the good news of Jesus Christ, having confidence in that Gospel which starts with our own story of an honest look at our own lives with honesty and grace. There is often little agreement about what it actually means to follow in the way of Christ. The author admonishes Timothy to stick to the central teaching of the gospel: Jesus' death and resurrection and the promise of eternal life. It offers us encouragement to share God’s love in authentic ways. Paul calls Timothy to remind his church and us that true wealth and true identity are rooted in God’s promises of grace and eternal life. Paul calls Timothy and us to rekindle the gift of God that is within us. He calls us to understand that Jesus lived for us, died for us, and then rose to new life for us. And to center our lives on this faith-filled life and live that life with integrity.

Pastor Wayne



St. Jude Fundraiser

Friday, July 10th from 5-8pm I'm having a St. Jude Fundraiser at Bust'd Brewing in Peoria Heights. I will be bartending for tips and Bust'd will be giving a portion of all sales to my fundraiser. Michael will be out on the patio playing music for your enjoyment. If you're not a beer drinker, that's OK. They also serve seltzer and you can even create your own flavor! For food they have Butch's pizza and Frank's Italian Beef. You are also welcome to bring your own. I am only \$2,000 from my goal so help me get there if you can!

Thank you - Dawn

Mark Your Calendars!

Mark your calendars now for July 18th to help with Peoria's Pride Fest! This is such a fun event and we need your help! St Paul will have it's own booth at the festival again this year. Watch for details on how you can help and participate in this wonderful event.

Totally Excellent Movie Night!

The 80's had some really great movies and we think it's time to bring them back! On Saturday July 18th at 6pm grab your favorite movie snack or drink, we will fire up the popcorn machine, and meet us in the Bess room to watch the movies Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure and Bogus Journey! Sign up on the bulletin board so we make sure we have enough seats ready!

Let's Go Out to the Ballgame

Friday July 24th Let's go out to the ballgame! The Peoria Chiefs are taking on the West Michigan Whitecaps on Faith & Family and Hawaiian Night. We will be purchasing group tickets at the rate of \$12 per ticket with 2 and under being free. Please sign up on the bulletin board, with payment to the church office no later than July 19th.



*St. Paul Lutheran Church
Womens Ministry*

Women's Circle Dates

Quilters: July 6th and 20th

JoAnna: Summer Break

Esther: July 28th in the Bishoff Room



Church Staff

- Wayne Shelksohn, Interim 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

Women's Survey

The Women's Board would like your input as to future scheduling of meetings, programs and activities. You should be receiving a survey in the mail very soon. Please complete the survey and add any comments you may have and return it to church in the self addressed stamped envelope by Sunday, July 12 by mail or place in the Manila envelope on the bulletin board. Your response is needed and greatly appreciated.

Thank you.

Women's Outing to Mackinaw Tea Room

** Rescheduled**

Please join us for a fun-filled day of fellowship, shopping and food. We will meet at church at 11:00am on Wednesday July 8th and carpool to Mackinaw where we have a 12:45 luncheon reservation at the Tea Room at the Depot. We will be able to order off of the menu. Their specialty is the "tier" from which you will choose either a soup or salad, then choose your entree from a variety of sandwiches or salads, then top it off with one of their delicious desserts. After lunch there will be time to shop at Garden Gate and Beth Anne's where you will find home decor, florals, gifts, kids books and toys, jewelry, purses and clothing. Please sign up soon on the sheet on the bulletin board because space is limited to 20 people. Also, if you are willing to drive from church, please sign the sheet on the bulletin board. Any questions please contact Mary Conrad.

Thank you.



Council Meeting Highlights for June 15, 2026

- Council voted on three requests that were submitted to the Endowment Fund Committee for funding. Money for the repair and replacement of floor tiles in the basement was approved. \$3,000.00 for Lutheran World Relief was approved and Money for The Sea Scouts - a new branch of Scouting was approved.
- Brackets for the picnic tables have been installed, as have notices warning of the possibility of tipping if unbalanced.
- The Council appointed the members of the Call Committee. Stuart Johnson, Wendy Smith, Sandy Wertz, Kyle Burkholder, Michael Helgeson (as Council representative) and Amber Lowery (as leader of the committee). We thank these dedicated people for their service on this most important task.

We Pray For:

Shirley Barber, Rob Hackett,
Susie Ney, Jeff Williams,
Abby Mundwiller, Jim
Chamberlain, Terri
Montgomery, Nina Marquart,
Elijah Bolden and Tom
Schreiner

Our Shut-ins:

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 June newsletter need to be submitted no later than **10am on July 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.

Please place any documents that you have for Bev or Pastor in the box outside their doors.

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

Thank you!



Come Holy Spirit

The members of the call committee met this past Monday via zoom with Pastor Amy from the synod office. They have all the information they need for beginning the calling process. Please keep the call committee and the pastor who we have yet to call in your prayers.



Informational Meeting

Next Summer Minneapolis Minnesota will host the ELCA National Youth Gathering. On Sunday, July 12th we will be having an informational meeting following worship to discuss the gathering. Anyone who will be in 8th grade - Senior in high school this fall will be eligible to attend the gathering next June 28th - July 2nd. We will have information about costs and work together to come up with some teambuilding and fundraising plans.

Jr/Sr High Youth Night

6th graders through high school let's get together! Come and join us for a fun night together on Sunday July 26th from 6-8pm. More information to come soon. Any questions contact Melissa Gramlich or Bev Fordham

Worship Assistants

7/5: Sue Borcharding
7/12: Bev Fordham
7/19: **Need Volunteer**
7/26: **Need Volunteer**

Fellowship Treats

7/5: Mary Jane Moder
7/12: Annette Ferrie
7/19: **Open**
7/26: **Open**

Birthdays and Anniversaries

7/1: Alice Gramlich
7/1: Zaria Barrett
7/2: Michael Helgeson
7/3: Caitlynn Crotz
7/4: Joe and Opal Ferrie's Anniversary
7/5: Aaron Simmons
7/6: Derek Heerman
7/10: Jim Ulrich
7/15: Samantha Conrad
7/15: Holly Johnson
7/16: Morgan Wertz
7/18: Patricia DeCroix
7/18: Isaiah Heerman
7/24: Melissa Gramlich
7/28: Mike and Cheryl Cook's Anniversary
7/29: Shirley Barber
7/29: Cheryl Cook
7/30: Carol Frietsch

Counters

7/5: Kyle Burkholder and Amber Lowery

7/12: Scott Lee and Julia Coffman

7/19: Gerry Bloom and Hal Fordham

7/26: Brian Sharp and Mary Jane Moder

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

July 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>28 10:00am –11:00am Worship</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30 10:30am – 12:00pm TOPS</p>	<p>1 5:00pm –9:00pm Gems of the Prairie (Bischoff)</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>5 10:00am –11:00am Worship</p>	<p>6 10:00am – 12:00pm Quilting (Bischoff)</p>	<p>7 10:30am – 12:00pm TOPS 5:30pm Finance Committee</p>	<p>8 11:00am Women's Outing to Mackinaw</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>12 10:00am –11:00am Worship 12:00pm National Youth Gathering Informational Meeting</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14 10:30am – 12:00pm TOPS</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18 9:00am GEMS Barn Quilt Painting 9:00am Pride Fest 6:00pm Totally Excellent Movie Night</p>
<p>19 10:00am –11:00am Worship</p>	<p>20 10:00am – 12:00pm Quilting (Bischoff) 5:30pm Church Council 6:00pm Call Committee Meeting</p>	<p>21 10:30am – 12:00pm TOPS</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 6:00pm Church outing to the Chiefs Game</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26 Semi-Annual Meeting 10:00am –11:00am Worship 6:00pm –8:00pm Jr/Sr High Youth Group</p>	<p>27 Gems Quilt Show Committee Meeting</p>	<p>28 9:30am –11:30am Esther Circle 10:30am – 12:00pm TOPS</p>	<p>29 10:00am –2:00pm Faithful Creations</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>	<p>1 9:00am –12:00pm Clothing Closet Open</p>