

ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Rev. Nathan Peitsch • Head Elder: Bruce Mohr; Elders: Steve Gust, John Thies, Gary McCall

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March 2023

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Recently we've had some warmer days and it's had me thinking a little about the idea of spring cleaning. Spring cleaning is a great time to reduce clutter, to get ready for an upcoming junk day, or maybe just to straighten up some things that you've let go for too long. Maybe you rearrange your furniture for a fresh look. Maybe you pull out the junk drawer to declutter it. Maybe you like to take this as a time to go through the closet and donate some of the outfits you haven't worn in a while. Whatever the case the goal seems to be the same: Clean up!

We have just begun the season of Lent and the message of this season is actually quite similar. Lent is a time for us to do some spiritual spring cleaning. The Psalmist recognizes this need for some house cleaning in Psalm 51 we hear,

"Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me." Psalm 51:10
Here we read as the psalmist asks God to clean up his heart. And in the season of Lent we are encouraged to take some time to consider our own need for heart cleaning.

This season is set aside for penitence and reflection. Penitence comes from the sorrow we feel over the sins we have committed. We develop this penitential heart as we reflect on God's Word. Recently I was asked about the time of reflection we have in our worship services. There comes a point early in the service where I saw something to the effect of, "We pause to reflect on God's Word." What is this reflection all about? What should we be thinking about during this time?

To answer these questions, I like to go to Martin Luther's Small Catechism. As Luther addresses the topic of confession and absolution one of the questions he asks is which sins are these that we ought to confess. To which he answers,

"Consider your place in life according to the Ten Commandments: Are you a father, mother, son, daughter, husband, wife, or worker? Have you been disobedient,

unfaithful, or lazy? Have you been hot-tempered, rude, or quarrelsome? Have you hurt someone by your words or deeds? Have you stolen, been negligent, wasted anything, or done any harm?"

Luther gives us a lot to consider here and this is just part of it. Not only ought we to consider what sins we ought to clean up in regard to our vocations but in general how have we sinned? What personal secret sins do we hide. What cobwebs lurk in the corners of our hearts that we should really be dealing with rather than sweeping them under the rug.

Any cleaning task can seem pretty daunting when you consider it this way though. Looking at the whole of the ten commandments, we've got a lot of cleaning up to do. We've put plenty of other things before God. I'd venture to guess there's places where our language can be cleaned up rather than taking the Lord's name in vain as often as we do. And who among us can truly say we have honored father and mother as we ought or never hurt or harmed our neighbor in some way.

Every cleaning job needs to start somewhere. So perhaps this lent you may choose to focus on your language, or your church attendance, or your tithing, perhaps you'll take some time to tackle one of your bad habits. Whatever the case, recognize that in all of this as the psalmist himself recognized, we need God to be the one to create the clean heart in us. We cannot do it ourselves. It is God who cleans us up. He has washed us with the waters of holy baptism. He has given us His Holy Spirit that we might be led by Him. He has given us His Word that we might not sin against Him. But most importantly He has given us His Son. This is where our lenten penitence and reflection should always drive us, back to the cross, back to Christ. There we find forgiveness. There we receive His grace. There we get clean hearts. God bless you this Lententide,
Pastor Nathan Peitsch

BAKE SALE MARCH 5

Right After Church
In Overflow Room

Please Come!



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

Don't forget to set clocks ahead an hour before going to bed on Saturday, March 11th.



CHURCH RECORDS

Funeral

Memorial Service was held on February 27th for Doris Thompson who was called to his eternal home on January 24, 2023.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

The monthly meetings will be Tuesday, March 7th with Elders Meeting at 6:30 p.m. and Council Meeting will be on Tuesday, March 14th at 7:00 p.m.



We have begun taking pictures for the Church Directory. Please stop after the service to have your picture taken. If you need to schedule a different time, please call Bruce Mohr (712) 269-8771 or John Thies (712) 882-3379.

LYF BIBLE STUDY

On Sunday, March 12th there will be a LYF Bible study after the worship service.



125th ANNIVERSARY PLANNING

The next 125th Anniversary planning meeting will be on Monday, March 6th at 7:00 p.m.

1ST ANNUAL SOUP COOK OFF

Our 1st Annual Soup Cook off was on February 4th. There were 8 different soups. Enjoyed by all.



1st Place -Terri Mohr, 2nd Place -Lynette Thies, 3rd Place -Tory Greder

CATECHISM CLASS

During lent, starting March 1st, Catechism class times will be different pre week.

- March 1st - 4:30 – 5:30 p.m. - 5 & 6 Grades
5:15 – 5:30 p.m. – catechism supper
5:30 - 6:30 p.m. - 7 & 8 Grades
- March 8th- 4:30 – 5:30 p.m. - 5 & 6 Grades
5:30 - 6:30 p.m. - 7 & 8 Grades
6:00 – 6:45 p.m. – Lenten Supper
- March 15th-4:30 – 5:30 p.m. - 5 & 6 Grades
5:15 – 5:30 p.m. – catechism supper
5:30 - 6:30 p.m. - 7 & 8 Grades
- March 22nd-4:30 – 5:30 p.m. - 5 & 6 Grades
5:30 - 6:30 p.m. - 7 & 8 Grades
6:00 – 6:45 p.m. – Lenten Supper
- March 29th-4:30 – 5:30 p.m. - 5 & 6 Grades
5:15 – 5:30 p.m. – catechism supper
5:30 - 6:30 p.m. - 7 & 8 Grades



Mid-week Lenten Services schedule will be split between St. Paul's & St. Matthew. St. Paul's will be service supper from 6:00-6:45 p.m. and St. Matthew will be service supper from 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Schedule:

- Wed, Mar. 1 – St. Matthew – Supper 6 – 7 p.m.
Service - 7:15 p.m.
- Wed, Mar. 8 –St. Paul's –Supper 6:00–6:45 p.m.
Service - 7:00 p.m.
- Wed, Mar. 15 - St. Matthew – Supper 6–7 p.m.
Service - 7:15 p.m.
- Wed, Mar. 22 –St. Paul's – Supper 6 – 6:45 p.m.
Service - 7:00 p.m.
- Wed, Mar. 29 - St. Matthew – Supper 6–7 p.m.
Service - 7:15 p.m.



On April 6th Maundy Thursday service with Holy Communion will be at 7:00 p.m. at St Paul's. On April 7th Good Friday service will be at 7:00 p.m. at St. Matthew, Mapleton.

On April 9th Easter Sunrise service with Holy Communion will be held at 6:30 a.m. at St. Paul's, Easter breakfast after sunrise service, Sunday School will start at 9:00 a.m. There will be a 9:00 a.m. Easter Worship Service at St. Matthew, Mapleton.



Members are invited to bring an Easter lily to church Friday, April 7th or Saturday, April 8th. Please sign up on the sheets at either door by Sunday, April 2nd, so the names of those you wish to remember can be included in the Easter bulletin.

DRIVE UP COMMUNION

Drive up Communion is available by calling pastor at (712)885-2221 and setting up a time during the week.

NEWSLETTER SPONSORS

The newsletter this month is sponsored in honor of cancer patients & their families.

Please contact the office if you'd like to sponsor the newsletter. The cost is \$37.

THANK YOU THAT ST. PAUL'S RECEIVED

Dear St Paul - Ute,

We gratefully accept your donation.

As we continually seek ways to grow and enhance our programming, your partnership and ongoing support is such an important part of that future. As God has blessed you, so have you blessed Camp Okoboji !!

God's Blessings,
Friends at Camp Okoboji

ST PAUL LUTHERAN:

AS WE WRAP UP 2022, WE GIVE ALL PRAISE AND GLORY TO GOD FOR BLESSING CAMP OKOBOJI IN SUCH WONDERFUL WAYS. YOUR LOVE OF CAMP AND SUPPORT OF CAMP IS ONE OF THOSE WONDERFUL BLESSINGS!! THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH!! WE PRAY YOU WILL CONTINUE TO BE OUR PARTNER AS WE SHARE JESUS' LOVE WITH ALL WHO COME TO CAMP OKOBOJI!!
GOD BLESS YOUR MINISTRY AT ST PAUL!!

TRUSTING IN JESUS OUR SAVIOR,
Kirk

St. Paul Congregation -

Thank you so much
for the payments that we
received.

This is a very helpful
gift as we start up our
new congregation, Christ
Lutheran Church.

God's Blessings -

Christ Lutheran
Congregation

BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS FOR MARCH

We are listing Baptismal birthdays to remember and celebrate the day we were adopted into the family of God through the washing of the Holy Spirit. Those having Baptismal birthdays in March are:

Amy Riddle	4
Loretta Hinrichsen, Jaxson Thies	5
Emilee Meadows	8
Kade Ohlmeier	10
Norma Berens, Alyssa Thies	12
Lisa Thies	13
Gregory Hinrichsen	14
Kenley Bretthauer-Stephens, Breyah Kuehl	15
Ryan Goslar	18
Kevin Savery	19
Landon Mohr	20
Carter Leitz, David Pohlman, Rick Knuth	21
Bryan Rosburg, Brenda Savery, Logan Vinke	24
Sharon Gosch, Virginia Keating,	25
Kaitlyn Conto, Quintin Conto, Zachary Kelm, Joseph Sorensen	
Duncan Purcell, Amanda Thies	26



PLEASE GIVE US A CALL

- before going to the hospital
- birth of your baby
- death in the family
- making wedding plans
- address and name changes
- private communion

MISSING SLOW COOKER

A slow cooker is missing from the church kitchen. If anyone has it or has knowledge of where it is, please bring it back or contact us. Thank you

SUGGESTIONS FOR A SAFE WINTER

As we head into the winter months, realize that snow and cold awaits us. At times, services may be held in less-than-ideal conditions. We encourage those with special concerns for dangerous conditions to use suitable caution. Reasonable effort will be made to have sidewalks clear, and ice melt placed where needed. Be cautious of the north parking lot, especially on mornings after a thaw and refreezing. We understand that for some it may be wiser to listen to services at home and not take chances.

If the weather is so severe that services are cancelled, it will be announced on KDSN radio station, and posted on church facebook and website. We will also use Call Multiplier in the event of a cancellation. Please make sure we have your current phone number.

MAIN STREET LIVING

Main Street Living is a television ministry of the Lutheran churches of Missouri-Synod and of the Iowa West District. The worship service is on Sundays at 10 am on channel 9 KCAU, the ABC Network from Sioux City.

“THY STRONG WORD”

Thy Strong Word is a 5 min. daily devotional message given by LC-MS pastors. It is aired at 6:25 a.m., Mon.-Sat. on KDSN, FM107.1

Mar. 6-11 Rev. Richard Merrill
Multi-Point, Charter Oak

Mar. 13-18 Rev. Nathan Peitsch
St. Paul's, Ute

Mar. 20-25 Rev. Mark Kluzek
St. John, Kiron/Faith, Deloit

Mar. 27-Apr. 1 Rev. William Wrede
Zion, Denison

GOOD SHEPHERD HOUR

This program is a ½ hour worship service heard on Sioux City, KSCJ, 1360 AM, at 8:00 am.

Ute Community Building

313 South Monona Ave. Ute, IA



**A benefit concert for Saint Paul Lutheran's
125th Anniversary. Featuring Root Beer
Floats and a silent auction!**

Grateful Heart

Saturday April 1st • 7 PM

Tickets \$20 at the door or call Tammy at 712-265-1199

*Please join us for this
Ute area community celebration!*

stpaulsute.org • Facebook: [stpaulsute](https://www.facebook.com/stpaulsute)



We are taking donations for Camp Okoboji until April 9th. Our delegate that is going to the Annual Camp Okoboji meeting will take the groceries to camp on April 15th.



**Camp Okoboji Auxiliary
1531 Edgewood Drive
Milford IA 51351
712.337.3325**



CAMP GROCERY SHOWER!

NO PEAS PLEASE!

Bring large cans of green beans and corn Spaghetti sauce & carrots, our shelves do adore

Sliced black olives, mushrooms & large cans of fruit

To make Salads and desserts that will suit

Frostings, Sugar-brown & white
Large bags of cereal will surely delight

Bring sliced dill pickles & cream soup
Add zip lock bags-all sizes to the group

Bring your gifts to the Annual Meeting
Let's have cans stacked to the ceiling

With gifts God has blessed us, Let nothing hamper

To share the love of Jesus with every camper.

NOTE: Also needed

Dawn Dish Soap

HEFTY BRAND:

8 oz Styrofoam cups

Divided Styrofoam plates

CUB WEEK SCHOLARSHIP

The Camp Okoboji auxiliary will be giving away 6 scholarships for Cub/Jr High/Youth Weeks. You can pick up a scholarship application from the church office. The application needs to be completed & returned to Camp Okoboji by April 10th.

Camp Okoboji is committed to providing youth an experience within a temporary community using the outdoor setting and trained leaders to meet spiritual objectives. From their experience at Camp Okoboji, youth will be enriched in the faith, established in Christian Community, and equipped & emboldened to live out their faith in their regular routines of life. The following are Camp Okoboji's Youth Camps & their primary purposes:

KIDS' KAMP | (June 2-4) To provide K-2nd Grade Students & Families an experience in which they are introduced and acclimated to Camp Okoboji where physical & spiritual refreshment occurs.

CUB WEEK | (Cub week 1 June 25-29, Cub week 2 July 16-22) To provide 3-5th Grade students an experience within a Christian environment in which they are valued, create new friendships, learn about the faith in Christ, and participate in engaging activities.

JUNIOR HIGH WEEK | (July 9-15) To provide 6-8th Grade students an experience within a Christian environment in which they are valued, encouraged to build Christ-based friendships, participate in engaging activities, and are built up in the faith in Christ.

YOUTH WEEK | (July 23-29) To provide 8-12th Grade students an experience within a Christian environment in which they are valued, establish and build Christ-based friendships, participate in engaging activities, reflect upon their Christ-given identity & purpose in life, and challenged to develop Christian character.

ARK PLAYGROUND CAMPAIGN



The Camp Okoboji Auxiliary will be launching a matching fundraising campaign for their planned new playground, which will be themed around the Ark. A donor is willing to provide a matching gift of \$1 for every \$2 generated, up to a maximum of \$20,000. Reaching their goal of \$20,000 in matching funds will generate \$60,000 to rebuild the playground.

Camp
Okoboji

ARK PLAYGROUND

Help the Camp
Auxiliary build up a
fantastic space for our
campers to play!



Please make your checks to Camp Okoboji Auxiliary and send to:

Camp Okoboji
1531 Edgewood Drive
Milford, IA 51351

Picture not drawn to scale

CREATION MUSEUM AND ARK ENCOUNTER BUS TRIP - JUNE & DECEMBER 2023

Two bus trips June 5-9 and December 4-8 to the Creation Museum and Ark Encounter are planned for 2023 two trips are basically the same. However, the December trip also includes an addition Imax show "The Christmas Star" and a Christmas dinner in the cafeteria and the spectacular Christmas lights.

Currently, there are still seats available. A \$100 deposit per person is required to reserve your seat on the bus. A deposit can be mailed to Roger and Ellen Bauer, 806 Juhl Avenue, Waverly, Iowa 50677.

The 56 passenger Windstar bus leaves from the Waverly Walmart parking lot at 6:00am Monday morning. We make pickup stops in Waterloo, Cedar Rapids and Iowa City on the way. The bus ride is edu-tainment to help you understand what you will be seeing. Monday is a travel day, Tuesday and Wednesday at the Creation Museum, Thursday at the Ark, and Friday we travel home. Check out their websites at creationmuseum.org or arkencounter.com. For additional information: 319-610-2623 or bauerr@mchsi.com