

ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

Phone: 712-885-2221 • e-mail: [stpaulute@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulute@gmail.com) • website: [stpaulsute.org](http://stpaulsute.org) •

[facebook.com/stpaulsute](https://facebook.com/stpaulsute)

---

May 2024

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Confirmation time has come around again. Our confirmands have prepared, studied, learned, and memorized, so that they can be ready for this time. They have immersed themselves in God's Word and in our Lutheran understanding of that Word. They are prepared to confess these things before the church. They are ready to confirm that they believe the things confessed over them in their baptism. And they are eagerly looking forward to partaking of the Sacrament of the Altar.

We put so much time and effort into instructing these young adults in the basics of our faith, summarizing what we believe for them so that they can understand it. They put time, and sometimes even tears, into memorizing God's Word, along with selections of Luther's Small Catechism. They read and study the material. They faithfully spend time in class taking notes and diligently learning these things. All so that they can be confirmed and become communicant members of our church.

Each year we end our classes with the reminder, "it doesn't end here!" Our learning, our studying, our growing, our faith, does not stop at confirmation. Imagine if we were as diligent in our study of the Word of God as these confirmands have been over the last several years. Imagine knowing God's Word that thoroughly.

This is our calling as Christians. We are called to continue to grow, to learn, and to study. We shouldn't stop memorizing. We don't stop learning. We don't stop growing. The psalmist knows this, he wrote of the value of knowing the Word.

"I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you." - Ps. 119:11  
We store up the Word of God in our hearts. In the Service of Prayer and Preaching, we often pray the "Collect for the Word", where we pray regarding the Scriptures, "Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart...". We are asking God to help us to learn and study His Word. To know it thoroughly, in much the same way that our confirmands are to come to know the catechetical material.

Knowing the Word of God is essential to our lives as disciples of Christ. Without that Word, we would know nothing of the love God has shown us in sending His only Son. Without that Word, we would not know of the salvation that has been won for us through the innocent suffering and death of Christ.

The writer of Hebrews acknowledged the power of the Word of God. He writes:

"For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart." - Heb. 4:12

The Word of God has power. It is this Word that we are called to share as we spread the good news of Christ. This Word we are called to live out. It is this Word that we have been given in our baptism and have been hearing in church ever since.

God has given us His Word, as St Paul reminds us:

"All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work." - 2 Tim. 3:16-17

God's Word equips us, teaches us, and shows us the way of salvation. So immerse yourself in that Word: read, mark, learn, and take it to heart. In order that you may be equipped for every good work. May this time of confirmation be a reminder to us all of how much we have to gain from spending time in God's Word, both in church and in our personal devotions.

In Christ,

Pastor Nathan Peitsch

## **MONTHLY MEETING**

Elders Meeting is Tuesday, May 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.  
Council Meeting is Tuesday, May 14<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM.



## **Orphan Grain Train †**

Reminder that grain train donations are on pause for the time being but we will let you know when they are taken donations again.



## **ACOLYTES SIGN-UP SHEET**

Catechism students the sign-up sheet for acolyting for May – August is in the back on church on the bulletin board.



## **CATECHISM QUESTIONING**

You are invited to hear our 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmands publicly confess their faith in God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, May 1<sup>st</sup>, 7 pm.

## **CONFIRMATION**

On May 5<sup>th</sup>, our eighth-grade members will make a public confession of the faith given in her baptism and nurtured through years of instruction in Sunday School and weekday classes. Confirmands in 2024 are Carter Leitz, Jenna Rosener, Katelynn Schaffer & Caden Scheer.



## **SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Last day of Sunday School is May 5<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to everyone that helped with this year's Sunday School.



## **EASTER BREAKFAST**

Thank you to everyone that came to the Easter Breakfast and the LYF for hosting.



## **LCW**

I would like to let everyone know that I have had strong support in getting the LCW active again. We had positive support with recent funerals by way of assisting the caterers and providing desserts. It is important for this group to thrive and succeed to support our congregational needs. Tentatively, our meetings will be held on the first Thursday of each month at 5:30 pm in the fellowship hall. Please consider joining and supporting this group.

If you are interested or have questions, please call or text Terri Mohr (712)269-8598.



## **OLD TABLES**

St. Paul's has 8 old folding tables that we no longer use and would like to find a new home for them. They are all upside in the room across the secretaries office. Please call Deanna (712)208-0224.



YOU DID IT!  
*Congratulations*

We would like to Congratulate our 2024  
 High School Graduates

**BACCALAUREATE SUNDAY**

The Blessing of our High School Graduates will  
 be during the Service on May 19<sup>th</sup>.



**Jasmine Schaffer**

**Graduating from:**  
 MVAOCOU High  
 School

**Future Plans:** To  
 attend Brair Cliff  
 college in the fall  
 majors in Psychology  
 & Behavior Analysis,  
 minor in Music



**ASCENSION**  
 OF THE LORD

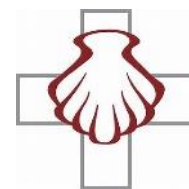
SPECIAL ASCENSION SERVICE  
 AT MISSION CENTRAL ON MAY 9, 2024  
 MEAL AT 5 PM – WORSHIP AT 6:30 PM

Rev. Chris Tiews will share the exciting work  
 that our Lord is doing in the mission fields of  
 Germany.

**BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS FOR MAY**

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.

Kristina Bernholtz, Austin Leitz	3
Kendra Creese	4
Bernice Schuitema	6
Jennifer Burbridge, Jesse Thies	7
Jacob Sorensen, NiKay Schaffer	8
Jeffery Mordhorst, Matthew Leitz, Roger Krohn	9
Elaine Vogt	11
Justin Hanson, Lainey Bernholtz	12
Shawn King	
David Hageman	13
Evelyn Thies	14
Londyn Bernholtz	15
Joan Hennings	17
Carol Ullerich	18
Kimberly Creese	19
Paul Tuttle	20
Mason Kuhlmann	21
Lillian Carritt, Josiah Peitsch	22
Matthew Sorensen	
Liam Meadows, Mila Meadows	23
Matthew Hanson	27
Travis Meadows	28
Steven Gust, Kimberly King, Nina Leitz	31



**SPECIAL BIRTHDAYS**

May 7 – Dar Mohr (91 yrs old)  
 May 23 – Carol Aronson (89 yrs old)

**SPECIAL ANNIVERSARIES**

Apr. 10 – Raymond & Holst (59 yrs)  
 May 28 – Mona & Jeff Pithan (36 yrs)

## 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



## NEWSLETTER SPONSORS

The newsletter this month is sponsored in honor of Mother's Day.

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



Please contact the office if you'd like to sponsor the newsletter. The cost is \$40 to sponsor a newsletter.



## "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

Apr. 29-May 4 Rev. Richard Merrill  
Multi-Point, Charter Oak

**May 6-11 Rev. Nathan Peitsch**  
**St. Paul's, Ute**

May 13-18 Rev. Ted Torreson  
Christ, Denison

May 20-25 Rev. William Wrede  
Zion, Denison

May 27 -Jun. 1 Rev. Merle Mahnken  
Immanuel, Schleswig

## GOOD SHEPHERD HOUR

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

## 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.



## Mission Central – Visiting Missionaries 2023

LCMS World Mission 40718 Highway E16  
Mapleton, IA 51034 712-882-1029 Gary Thies  
(gary.thies@lcms.org) www.missioncentral.us

- May 4, 2024 – Rev. Chris and Lulu Tiews  
– Germany – 1:00 pm
- May 9, 2024 – Rev. Chris and Lulu Tiews  
– Germany – 5:00 pm dinner – 6:30 pm  
worship
- May 21, 2024 – Rev. Kip and Ivy Hoech –  
Asia – 1:00 pm



## YOUTH CAMPS!

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:

<https://www.campokoboji.org/>

## **SPECIAL MISSIONS OFFERING**

This year our special mission is Lutheran Braille Workers. Our goal is \$3,000. Here is some information about LBW. <https://www.lbwloveworks.org>



Lutheran Braille Workers produces the English Standard Version Unified English Braille (UEB) Bible and the New International Version Grade 2 Braille Bible in 37 volumes embossed on durable 10×12 quality Braille paper. Volunteers throughout the United States lovingly produce each Braille Bible.

Braille Christian Materials, Devotionals, Bible Studies, Children's books, and Hymns are produced in an assortment of Grade 1 Braille, Grade 2 Braille, and UEB. Our Sermons and other Subscriptions are carefully transcribed into UEB by a dedicated team of volunteers.

Braille books and subscriptions are provided free of charge to readers who are Blind or Visually Impaired throughout the world.

### **The Story (History)**

Lutheran Braille Workers started in 1943 in response to a shortage of Braille Bibles for Blind pastors in Germany. Mrs. Helene Loewe Koehler, with the support of her family, felt God calling her to first learn Braille, and then begin the process of transcribing the Bible into German Braille, one dot at a time, moving backwards across the page. After months of hard work, and moving manuscripts and pages from under her bed, to her garage, to Trinity Lutheran Church's basement, an entire German Braille Bible was crafted and shipped out. Helene thought her project would be over until she received a letter from somebody who benefitted from the German Braille Bibles. The letter read:

"Thank you for the Braille Bible. It was exactly what we needed. How many more can you send?"

Helene wrote in her journal, "I think about how much



time and effort went into producing one Braille Bible. How in the world can we keep up with demand? But if people are asking for the Gospel, how can we ever say no?"

This is where Lutheran Braille Workers began. Through the support of her brother, Norman Loeber,



who created a modern Braille press, friends, women from the local Ladies Aid Societies, and volunteers at other Lutheran Churches, Helene began expanding production of materials into other languages and titles. As production grew, demand also grew even larger.

Eventually, through the encouragement of The Lutheran Hour speaker at the time, Rev. Dr. Oswald Hoffmann, Helene expanded into Large Print production.

Lutheran Braille Workers exists to bring the Word of God to the 338 million people throughout the world who are Blind or Visually Impaired, completely free of charge, in Braille and Specialized Large Print.

Men, women, and children find hope in the Light of Christ through the Bible and other Christian materials provided by LBW in multiple languages in every part of the globe. LBW is one of the last remaining free resources available to them in which the Good News of Jesus is shared quickly and in high quality formats.

In over 80 years of ministry, Lutheran Braille Workers has produced and distributed over 15 million volumes of Christian material, in 40 languages, to people in 164 countries. LBW has never charged a recipient to receive these materials as we believe in freely sharing God's Word!

### **Mission**

Because God desires salvation for all... Lutheran Braille Workers freely shares the Gospel with people who are Blind or Visually Impaired.

### **Vision**

All people in the world who are Blind or Visually Impaired have free access to the message of salvation through Jesus Christ.

## April 14, 2024, Voters Meeting Recap

Chairman Matt Leitz was not in attendance, so Head Elder Bruce Mohr called the meeting to order, and Pastor had an opening prayer. Motion made and carried to accept the agenda. The minutes of the previous 1/21/24 meeting and the 2/25/24 and 3/17/24 special voters' meetings were printed out for everyone to read. Motion made and carried to approve the minutes as presented. The Treasurer's Report for 1/1/24-3/31/24 was presented. Some discussion was held on opening a checking account for the LCW/Ladies Aid when that group is reformed. Motion was made and carried to approve the Treasurer's Report. Pastor reported that he was going to the nursing homes in Denison this afternoon to hold services and that he would be doing three funerals and possibly a fourth one this upcoming week. Confirmation is wrapping up this week, and the 8<sup>th</sup> graders will meet one more time the following week. Four are being confirmed this year, with Questioning Night on May 1 and Confirmation on May 5. Mid-week and Sunday morning adult Bible study classes are continuing. Some additional shut-ins have been added to his list, and everyone was asked to let him know if they are aware of any shut-ins who need to be visited. Attendance figures for January, February, and March were presented. The elders are working on updating the handbook. With the new service time change, Pastor can hold services here every Sunday. The transfer out of Lois Greder was accepted. The trustees are still waiting to hear from the insurance company regarding the roof. Some discussion was held on the planter in front of the church and adjustments to the candelabra at the altar. The resignation of Lois Greder from the board of education and the appointment of Nina Leitz was accepted. A one-day VBS is scheduled for Saturday, June 22, with singing by the kids on June 30. The last day of Sunday School and Confirmation will be on May 5. Stewardship Secretary Tammy Bramley will be getting in touch with someone from our special mission project of Lutheran Braille Workers. A service in the park with a barbeque meal will be held July 14, and a fundraiser will be held in conjunction with the service. The service time will be changed on Facebook to reflect the new time. A motion to adjourn was made and carried, and the Lord's Prayer was prayed by all.