ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Rev. Nathan Peitsch ◆ Head Elder: Bruce Mohr; Elders: Steve Gust, Jim Thies, Matt Leitz
Phone: 712-885-2221 ◆e-mail: stpaulute@gmail.com◆ website: stpaulsute.org ◆ facebook.com/stpaulsute

July/August 2026

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Summer tends to be a season for vacations and special trips. We'll travel to get away, or see family, to attend various sporting events or other activities, or to head to the various fairs. We travel for all sorts of reasons and often don't think much about it. But today I encourage you to pause and consider the journeys we take in our lives.

Throughout the Scriptures, we see many stories of different journeys. Noah built a whole ark for the journey he and his family were to take. God called Abram to leave his home, journeying to a place he didn't know. God led the Israelites on a journey out of Egypt to the promised land, one that ended up taking much longer than they originally thought. Jonah had quite the wild ride when God sent him to Nineveh and he tried going the opposite direction. As we look to the New Testament, we see as Jesus himself went on many different journeys to share his message of life and good news. In the book of Acts we can read the record of St Paul's multiple journeys to share the good news of Jesus wherever he could.

No matter where God's people went throughout the many voyages we find in the Scriptures, God was with them. When Abram left his home, God went with him and showed him the land He had promised. When Jonah was in the belly of the great fish, God appeared to him forgiving him for running away and bringing him safely to shore. Even though the Israelites rebelled against God when they arrived at the promised land and refused to enter out of fear, God went with them through their 40 year journey in the wilderness. Their shoes did not wear out, their clothes did not need to be replaced, and God continued to provide them with manna from heaven, quail in abundance, and water, even at times from a rock.

And as we venture into the New Testament, this doesn't change. God continues to go with His people. As Jesus sent out the disciples two by two, He assured them that they would have God's help, blessing them as they went, working through them to preform miracles, and feeding them through the generosity of the people they were sent to. When Paul and Barnabas found themselves in prison God was with them, delivered them, and through them, brought salvation to the jailor and his family.

God has promised to be with us wherever we go and we have seen Him keep that promise throughout the Scriptures as He was there for His people time and time again. And He promises to be with us as well, wherever we go and whatever we do. One of my favorite Psalms reminds us of this promise God makes, there the psalmist considers who God is and he writes,

> "Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence?." - Psalm 139:7

There's nowhere we can go where God is not watching over us, caring for us, providing for our every need.

In a familiar passage from Matthew 28 we hear Jesus promise His disciples, "And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." - Matt 28:20b He promises He is with us to the very end. What a comfort this is as we journey through our lives. And so no matter where we go, God encourages us to remember that He is there with us. He leads us, guides us, and cares for us each and every step of the way. And as you journey, remember how we are called to to think on God's Word. In Deuteronomy 6:7 we are encouraged to talk about God's Word as we walk on our way. In Luke 24, we hear as Jesus journeys with two disciples on the way to Emmaus teaching them all the Scriptures had to say about Himself. In Acts 8, Philip has the opportunity to speak with an Ethiopian reading God's Word. Journeys in God's Word are filled with people taking the opportunity to speak of God's Word as they travel.

So take His Word with you. Talk about it as you drive on the road. Listen to the Bible "on tape". Find a podcast to listen to (I've enjoyed Tangible, a Lutheran podcast talking about various theological topics.) But no matter what remember that wherever your travels take you, God is right there with you every step of the way.

In Christ,
Pastor Nathan Peitsch

MONTHLY MEETING

Council Meeting is Tuesday, July 7th at 7 PM. Elders Meeting is Tuesday, August 11th at 5:30 p.m. and Council Meeting at 7 PM.

VOTERS MEETING

We will be having a quarterly Voter's Meeting on Sunday, July 19th after the worship service.

SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS

Sunday Bible Class is on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sunday of the month at 9:30 am and we now meet in the LYF room.

Worship Service at the Ute Park
July 26, 2026
10:30 AM

Please bring a lawn chair for the service.
The Elders will be barbecuing burgers
after the service.
There will be games for the kids and adults.

LCW MINUTES

The LCW meetings will be Thursday, July 2nd at 5:30 pm.

ACOLYTES SIGN-UP SHEET

Catechism students the sign-up sheet for acolyting for months of July and August is in the back on church on the bulletin board.

CATECHISM

Catechism students and parents there will be a catechism information meeting on Wednesday, August 26th at 6:00 p.m.

MAPLETIN ZONE LWML CHURCH FOOD DRIVE

Mapleton zone LWML/ St. Paul's LCW is holding a Food Drive during the months of June, July, and August. We are collecting canned goods and boxed items. Specifically, donations of cereal, microwave popcorn, instant potatoes, rice, soups, canned meat, fruit and vegetables. We will have a box in the back of the church for your donations. All donations will go to Mapleton Food Pantry.

141 GARAGE SALE

If you are starting to think spring cleaning and not sure what to do with the stuff you don't want? St. Paul's youth are starting to take donations of clothing, toys and household items to sell at their garage sale at the beginning of August. Any donation can be dropped off the church.

VICAR JOHN STACY

Vicar John will be ordained and installed on Sunday, July 12 at 2pm at St. Matthews Lutheran Church, Mapleton. Following the installation they will be having a meal.

BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS FOR JULY

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 are:

July Baptismal Birthdays:

Lyle Kelm	1
Bette Amunson	2
Pam Martin	3
Kellen Anderson, Debra Nutt, James Thies	7
Deanne Hanson, Cameron Blunk	11
Henry Kelm	12
Nathan Mohr	13
Nina Hull	16
Bill Urwiler, Jase BeBout	17
Raylyn Kelm	18
Phillip Hinds	20
Elizabeth Jones	21
Brook (Bretthauer) Shufflebarger	22
Terri Mohr	23
Carmen Schaffer, Jenikka Schaffer, Xavier Schaffer	24
Derek Meadows, Nicholas Meadows, Jasmine Schaffer	26
Kenneth Amunson, Brittany Christiansen, Chris Christiansen	30

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

BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS FOR AUGUST

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 are:

August Baptismal Birthdays:

Larry Meadows, Teddy Nutt	1
Ashley Ewoldt, Macie Rubida	3
Everleigh Myrtue	4
Bill Creese	6
Ramona Pithan	7
Pastor Nathan Peitsch	8
Brock Nelson, Melissa Josephsen	10
Mariah Schmidt	13
Bryar Thies	13
Jeanette Urwiler	14
Shawn Goslar, Audrey Christophersen	15
Tadd Eneboe, Chris Thies	17
Jacquelin Marth, Joyce Mordhorst, Harvey Thies, Henry Mohr	25
Tanis Watke	26
Katie Schaffer	27
Brynn Leitz	28
Karen Koch, Judy Meadows	29
Jerod Thies	30
Becky Mordhorst	31

NEWSLETTER SPONSORS

The newsletter this month is in honor of the wonderful teachers. Past, present and future teachers. Thanks for all your hard work.

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

JULY HELPERS

Elder: Jim Thies
Ushers: Gary Goslar, Landon Meseck
Altar: Teresa Mordhorst
Altar Flowers: Deanna Sorensen
Finance: Ray Holst, Elaine Holst
Acolytes **July 5:** Max
July 12:
July 19: Samantha
July 26:

AUGUST HELPERS

Elder: Matt Leitz
Ushers: Dave Seieroe, Mona Pithan, Matt Leitz
Altar: Tanis Watke, Leah Schwery
Altar Flowers: Dar Mohr
Finance: Denny Mordhorst, Elaine Vogt
Acolytes **Aug 2:** Max
Aug 9:
Aug 16: Samantha
Aug 23: Samantha
Aug 30: Max

SPECIAL MISSIONS OFFERING

This year our special mission is Lutherans for Life. Our goal is $3,000. Here is some information about Lutherans for Life.

website: https://lutheransforlife.org/

LUTHERANS FOR LIFE

"The Fourth of July is an ideal time to thank God if you have a good homeland … or in the U.S., a free country. What a blessing! Just like Job or Jonah, this isn't the case for everyone. And we should continually pray for those whose homelands or countries are ravaged by war, politics, or disease. Praise God for giving us a country where we can worship Him and live our lives in relative freedom and peace." *Katrina Harrmann, Time of Grace – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

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.

GOOD SHEPHERD HOUR

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

"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

July 6-11 **Rev. Nathan Peitsch**
St. Paul's, Ute
July 3-18 Rev Ted Torreson
Christ, Denison
July 20-25 Rev. Jeffrey Wade
Zion, Denison
July 27-Aug 1 Rev. Merle Mahnken
Immanuel, Schleswig
Aug. 3-8 Rev. Chad Trunkhill
Our Savior/Bethlehem
Aug. 10-15 Rev. Richard Merrill
Multi-Point, Charter Oak
Aug. 17-22 Rev. Nathan Peitsch
St. Paul's, Ute
Aug. 24-29 Rev Ted Torreson
Christ, Denison
Aug. 31-Sept 5 Rev. Jeffrey Wade
Zion, Denison

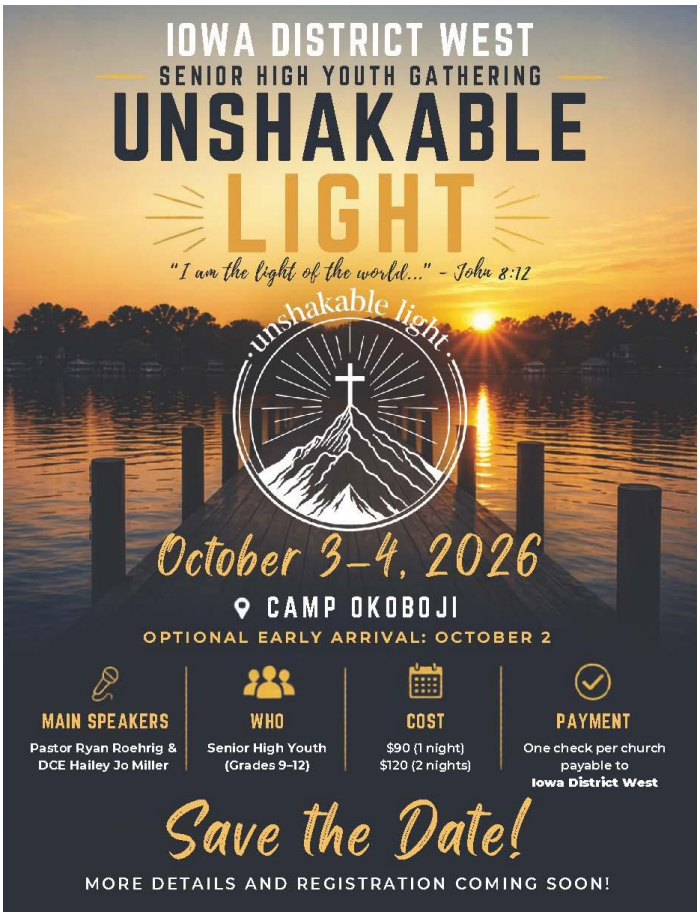
Mission Central – Visiting Missionaries

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

- July 8, 2026 – Dr. David Preus – Romania and Eurasia – 1:00 pm
- July 8, 2026 – Andrew and Noel Schaff – Taiwan – 1:30 pm
- July 11, 2026 – Wasmund family – South Korea – 1:00 pm
- July 11, 2026 – Rev Shauen Trump – Africa – 1:30 pm
- July 11, 2026 – Jaimelynn (Tinkey)Flores and Rev Flores – Chile – 2:00 pm
- August 8, 2026 – Britt Odemba from Kenya – 1:00 pm
- August 15, 2026 – Rev. Brian and Deaconess Keah Payne – Tanzania 1:00 pm
- August 22, 2026 – Ashley Lehr – Puerto Rico – 1:00 pm

IDW CAMP/YOUTH GATHERING SCHOLARSHIP

Iowa District West Camp/Youth Gathering Scholarships Assistance for those who need financial aid is available from the district for youth attending camps at Camp Okoboji and for district youth gatherings. The application should be filled out by the pastor or church worker from the congregation of which the applicant is a member. Applications are then sent to the district office. Click on the link and select "Youth Events Financial Aid." http://idwlcms.org/forms-and-links.php



St Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
VOTER'S MEETING AGENDA
Sunday, July 19, 2025, after the service

Opening Prayer
Corrections/Additions/Acceptance of Agenda
Call to Order
Previous Minutes

Reports

(1) Treasurers Report

(2) Pastors Report/Announcements

(3) Board of Elders
Attendance-Worship/Communion

(4) Board of Trustees
- Tuckpointing
- Screen Projector

(5) Board of Education/Youth
Vacation Bible School
Sunday School – starts September 13th

(6) Stewardship
Lutherans for Life

Old Business

July 26th Service in Park

New Business

Closing Prayer **Pastor Peitsch**

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

July 2026

Elder: Jim Thies; **Ushers:** Gary Goslar, Landon Meseck; **Altar:** Teresa Mordhorst; **Altar Flowers:** Deanna Sorensen;
Finance Committee: Ray Holst, Elaine Holst

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
All Worship Services will be in person and live-streamed. You can find the Live-stream at www.facebook.com/stpaulsute/live			1 11:00 AM Bible Class	2 5:30 PM LCW Meeting	3 Pastors Family Day	4
5 9:30 AM Bible Class 10:30 AM DS w/Holy Communion Acolytes: Max	6	7 Pastor in Mapleton 7:00 PM Council Mtg	8 11:00 AM Bible Class	9	10 Pastors Family Day	11
12 10:30 AM Divine Service Acolytes:	13	14 Pastor in Mapleton	15 11:00 AM Bible Class	16	17 Pastors Family Day	18
19 9:30 AM Bible Class 10:30 AM DS w/Holy Communion Voters Meeting after service Acolytes: Samantha	20	21 Pastor in Mapleton	22 11:00 AM Bible Class	23	24 Pastors Family Day	25
26 10:30 AM Service in the park Acolytes:	27	28 Pastor in Mapleton	29 11:00 AM Bible Class	30	31 Pastors Family Day	

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

August 2026

Elders: Matt Leitz**; Ushers:** Dave Seieroe, Mona Pithan, Matt Leitz; **Finance Committee:** Denny Mordhorst, Elaine Vogt;
Altar Flowers: Dar Mohr; **Altar:** Tanis Watke, Leah Schwery

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9 10:30 AM Divine Service Acolytes:	10	11 Pastor in Mapleton 5:30 PM Elders Mtg 7:00 PM Council Mtg	12 11:00 AM Bible Class	13	14 Pastors Family Day	15
16 9:30 AM Bible Class 10:30 AM DS w/Holy Communion Acolytes: Samantha	17	18 Pastor in Mapleton	19 11:00 AM Bible Class	20	21 Pastors Family Day	22
23 10:30 AM Divine Service Acolytes: Samantha	24	25 Pastor in Mapleton	26 11:00 AM Bible Class 6:00 PM Catechism Orientation	27	28 Pastors Family Day	29
30 9:30 AM Bible Class 10:30 AM DS w/Holy Communion Acolytes: Max	31					

Update

UPCOMING EVENTS:

June 14-18: CUB WEEK 1
June 20: Auxiliary Quilt Auction - 12:30 pm
June 21-27: Minneboji
June 28-July 3: 4TH OF JULY FAMILY RETREAT
July 5: OMELET BRUNCH - 9:30 AM TO 1:00 PM
July 5-11: JUNIOR HIGH WEEK
July 9-12: J.O.Y. CAMP 2
July 12-18: CUB WEEK II
July 19-25: Youth Week

REGISTRATION IS STILL OPEN AT CAMP OKOBOJI! Registration information is available online at campokoboji.org. Have your youth join us for Junior High Week, Cub Weeks, or Youth Week, as well as our Family Retreats.

Thank You!

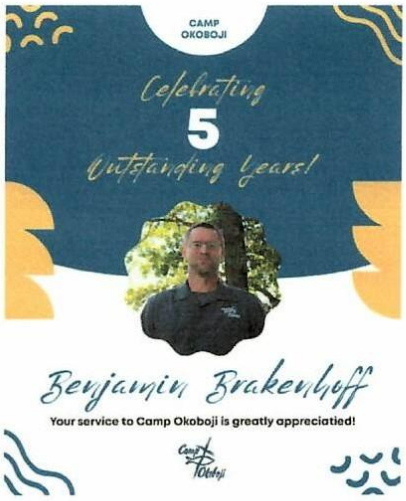
THANKS to volunteers and groups who give so generously of their time and talents in serving Camp Okoboji.

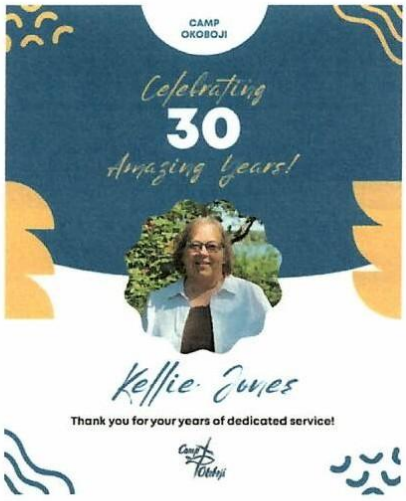
- A big thanks to Dean Peterson for helping us take down several dead trees and trim up some others. I'm glad he's not afraid of heights!

We give thanks to God for 5 years of service from Benjamin Brakenhoff, our Maintenance Director. We also praise God for 30 years of faithful service from Kellie Jones, our Operations Director.

Summer Chaplain Schedule
Join us for worship - 9 am

June 14 - Rev. Dr. B Keith Haney – IDW
June 21 - Rev. Andrew Noble – Arcadia
June 28 - Rev. Chris Ascher – Sioux Falls, SD
July 5 - Rev. Charlie Adams – Omaha, NE
July 12 - Rev. David Beagley – Ames
July 19 - Rev. David Matthews – Paullina/Sutherland
July 26 - Rev. Mark Lund - Garner
August 2 - Rev. James Travis – Sioux City
August 9 - Rev. Dr. Kristopher Morris - Seward, NE
August 16 - Rev. Dr. Joshua Lowe – Hawarden
August 23 - TBD
August 30 - Rev. Benjamin Dose – Algona
September 6 - Rev. Robert Zellmer – Lawton





ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
P.O. BOX 139
Ute, IA 51060
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Ute, IA 51060

Service at the Ute Park
July 26, 2026
10:30 AM

Please bring a lawn chair for the service.
Elders will be barbecuing burgers
Games for the kids and adults.

Worship Service – In-Person/Live-Stream
Sundays 10:30 A.M.

Live Streaming at:
www.facebook.com/stpaulsute/live

Church Office**: 712-885-2221**
E-Mail: **stpaulute@gmail.com**
Pastor email: **pastornpeitsch@gmail.com**
Website: **www.stpaulsute.org**