

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

May 2026

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we begin the month of May, there are a number of different holidays and significant events we could pick out as worthy of our attention and celebration. First we celebrate the rite of Confirmation as we begin the month. Next up we have Mother's Day. Many school students are looking forward to graduation this month and then there's Memorial Day to think of as well. There are even three different church holidays we will have the opportunity to celebrate this month: Ascension, Pentecost, and Trinity Sunday. May is certainly a month for celebrations.

And so as we move into this month of celebrating, I encourage you to consider those church holidays. First we have Ascension. This day comes 40 days after Easter. It is set aside as a day to remember when Jesus, our Lord, ascended into heaven. We confess this in our creed regularly as we declare, "He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead." In His ascension, Christ assures us that He does not leave us alone, but will send the promised Holy Spirit to be with us, teach us, remind us, and work faith in us. And as the disciples gazed up into heaven after Him, an angel appeared and proclaimed to them, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven." - Acts 1:11

Ascension Day stands as answer to the question, "where is Jesus now?" He has ascended into heaven. I remember one pastor the Sunday after celebrating the ascension modified our common Easter acclamation to state, "Christ is risen and ascended, alleluia!" Christ's ascension is truly a reason to celebrate as it means that we too can look forward to the day we are welcomed into His eternal kingdom. As we state in the creed, Christ's ascension assures us of where He is, not just seated in heaven waiting and basking in the glory of His victory, but as the Scriptures assure us, He intercedes for us. He

sits at the right hand of the Father, and He has assured us that from there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

What blessed good news this is. As the writer of Hebrews assures us, "For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin." - Heb. 4:15 Jesus our High Priest and Judge not only sympathizes in our weakness, but He is the very one who has paid for that weakness and for every time we have fallen into sin. What hope and assurance this gives us as we know that the one who sits to judge the living and the dead is the very one who has already paid the price for all our sins.

Ascension Day doesn't tend to get a lot of attention and recognition. After all, we don't make as big of a celebration of it as Christmas, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, or Easter. But knowing Ascension Day has happened gives us hope and assurance as together we look forward to the day when Christ will return in glory.

And so throughout this month of different celebrations may you also look forward to that great celebration that is to come when Christ returns from His ascension to take us to Himself. In Christ,
Pastor Nathan Peitsch

CONFIRMATION

On May 3rd, 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.



LCW

The LCW meeting with salad/dessert supper will be Wednesday, May 6th at 5:30 pm. You can bring a salad or dessert to share with the group. Please invite a friend to come and enjoy a time of fellowship.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

The Elders Meeting will be Tuesday, May 12th at 5:30 p.m. and Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Sunday School will be singing during the worship service on May 10th. Last day of Sunday School is May 10th.

VBS SAVE THE DATE

Vacation Bible School will be June 6th. More information will come.

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. The topic we are studying now is "The minor prophets".

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.



NEWSLETTER SPONSORS

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

MAY HELPERS

Elder: Steve Gust

Ushers: Gary Pohlman, Ray Holst

Altar: Megan Peitsch

Altar Flowers: Kerry Vinke

Finance: Gary Pohlman, Judy Pohlman

Acolytes **May 3:**

May 10: Morgan, Wyatt

May 17: Max

May 24:

May 31: Samantha, Morgan



We would like to Congratulate our 2026 High School Graduates

Caden Kuhlmann

Graduating from: MVAOCOU High School

Future Plans: Attending Missouri for Welding

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
Ezra Schaffer	5
Bernice Schuitema	6
Jennifer Burbridge, Jesse Thies	7
Jacob Sorensen, NiKay Schaffer	8
Jeffery Mordhorst, Matthew Leitz,	9
Roger Krohn	
Elaine Vogt	11
Justin Hanson, Lainey Bernholtz	12
Shawn King, Genevieve Teut-Hollander	
David Hageman	13
Evelyn Thies	14
Londyn Bernholtz	15
Joan Hennings	17
Kimberly Creese	19
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



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

ASCENSION OF THE LORD

SPECIAL ASCENSION SERVICE
AT MISSION CENTRAL ON MAY 14, 2026
MEAL AT 5 PM – WORSHIP AT 6:30 PM

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 Ascension of Our Lord) – In the Ascension of Christ, we behold the fulfillment of Psalm 47:5, “God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.” Knowing that the Lord Jesus is now seated at the right hand of God (Ephesians 1:20), where He rules all things for the good of His Church, gives us great comfort and assurance as we continue to advocate for those whose voices are being silenced by abortion. There will be a day of reckoning, when the Lord Jesus returns with the clouds in the same way as He once ascended into heaven (Acts 1:11). We thank God for the hope to which He has called us and pray for His Spirit of wisdom and enlightenment (Ephesians 1:17-18), that we may continue to speak the truth in love and call people to repentance, that they might receive the forgiveness of sins through Jesus Christ our Lord (Luke 24:46-47).

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

- May 14, 2026 – Ascension Day Service at Mission Central – Dinner at 5pm and worship at 6:30 pm – Rev. Richard Snow – President of the Nebraska District
- May 16, 2026 – Cody and Aurelie Mock – Czech Republic – 1:00 pm
- May 23, 2026 – Rev Paul Nelson – Indonesia – 1:00 pm
- May 23, 2026 – Rev. Adam Lehman and family – Puerto Rico – 1:30 pm

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 1/2 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

- May 4-9 Rev. Merle Mahnken
Immanuel, Schleswig
- May 11-16 Rev. Chad Trunkhill
Our Savior/Bethlehem
- May 18-23 Rev. Richard Merrill
Multi-Point, Charter Oak
- May 25-30 Rev. Nathan Peitsch
St. Paul’s, Ute**

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>

SAVE THE DATE – YOUTH GATHERINGS

SR Youth Gathering (Grades 9-12) October 2-4, 2026, Location: Camp Okoboji

JR Youth Gathering (Grades 6,7,8) October 24-25, 2026, Location: Sheraton – West Des Moines

CAMP OKOBOJI 2026

Discipleship Programs

May 29-31	Kid’s Kamp
June 4-7	Joy Camp 1
June 14-18	Cub Week 1
June 28-July 3	July 4 th Family Retreat
July 5-11	Jr High Week
July 9-12	Joy Camp 2
July 12-18	Cub Week 2
July 19-25	Youth Week
July 26-31	Family Retreat #1
August 2-7	Family Retreat #2

Other Events

January 23-25...Family Ice Fishing Retreat
May 1-2...Spring Volunteer Work Weekend
June 10-13...Iowa West District LWML Convention
June 20...Camp Okoboji Auxiliary Quilt Auction
June 21-27...Minneboji Lutheran Camp
May 24-September 6...Sunday Worship
1st Sundays of the Month (May-October)...Brunch
October 9-10...Fall Volunteer Work Weekend

For more information and to register, visit
campokoboji.org





St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

May 2026

Elder: Steve Gust; Ushers: Gary Pohlman, Ray Holst; Finance Committee: Gary Pohlman, Judy Pohlman;

Altar: Megan Peitsch; Altar Flowers: Kerry Vinke

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
Confirmation Sunday 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM DS w/Holy Communion		5 Pastor in Mapleton	6 11:00 AM Bible Class 5:30 PM LCW Meeting Salad supper	7	8 Pastors Family Day	9
Acolytes:		12 Pastor in Mapleton 5:30 PM Elders Mtg 7:00 PM Council Mtg	13	14 5:00 PM Ascension Service – Mission Central	15 Pastors Family Day	16
9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Divine Service 		11	11:00 AM Bible Class	21	22 Pastors Family Day	23
Acolytes: Morgan, Wyatt		19 Pastor in Mapleton	20			
Baccalaureate Sunday 9:30 AM Bible Class 10:30 AM DS w/Holy Communion		18	11:00 AM Bible Class	27		
Acolytes: Max		26 Pastor in Mapleton	27			
10:30 AM Divine Service	Office Closed 	25	11:00 AM Bible Class	28	29	30
Acolytes:						
9:30 AM Bible Class 10:30 AM DS w/Holy Communion		31				
Acolytes: Samantha, Morgan						



ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
P.O. BOX 139
UTE, IOWA 51060

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Permit No. 4
Ute, IA 51060



Sunday School & Bible Class
9:30-10:20 A.M.

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

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

Church Office: **712-885-2221**
Fax: **712-885-2020**
E-Mail: **stpaulute@gmail.com**
Pastor email: **pastornpeitsch@gmail.com**
Website: **www.stpaulsute.org**

The Denison & Mapleton Circuits'
Ascension Service at Mission Central
Thursday, May 14, 5:00 pm

