



Family Newsletter

October 2026



A PUBLICATION OF ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

FROM THE IDW President **Vacancies, Pastors and the Table of our Lord!**

Jesus meets with His faithful!

Whether you are being served by a called pastor or vacancy pastor, where two or three...you know the rest. Whether God is currently giving you a pastor on site or supplying you with a vacancy pastor, love God and each other. Each Lord's Day Jesus says, "Come." You either do, loving Jesus and each other, or you don't, walking away from Jesus and your brothers and sisters in Christ.

Jesus meets with His faithful at His table.

Jesus sat at table with His disciples most every day. What a blessing to sit at table with Jesus during our days. More and more congregations around Iowa District West and throughout our synod are returning to our historic, Lutheran, Biblical practice of the Lord's Supper for the Lord's people each Lord's Day. Yay! Jesus meets with God's dear sons and daughters at His table to clear minds with what is true, warm hearts with godly love, heal bodies as our Great Physician, and restore souls with His cleansing blood. Such gifts!

Even during pastoral vacancies! patiently await God's will for calling your next pastor: **One thousand Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod congregations face vacancies currently.** 80% of these vacancies have been for over a year. Our Lutheran Witness magazine devoted its February 2026 issue to the topic of vacancies.

Here's a few ideas for congregations as you patiently await God's will for calling your next pastor:

- + Be flexible, willing to change service times to adapt to your vacancy pastor's schedule.
- + Continue congregational activities and check up on each other.
- + Communicate with regular bulletin and social media announcements.
- + Explore partnerships with neighboring congregations. Think short term AND long term.
 - + Love your vacancy pastor and, in time, your called pastor.



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Hebrews 13:17: *"Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you."*

Never adopt the godless attitude, "We'll care for our pastor conditionally – IF he does what we want or WHEN he does what we want. Instead, care for and love your vacancy or called pastor BECAUSE God has given him to you.

Care for your pastor BECAUSE he is God's servant.

Care for your pastor BECAUSE He brings you God's living Word; BECAUSE he sets the very body and blood of Jesus into your hand and mouth.

LW editor Stacy (Egger) Eising, who also happens to be my niece, writes: In preparation for this issue, I spoke to

several district presidents, circuit visitors, vacancy pastors and laypeople about vacancies and how congregations can weather them well... Among it all was one constant refrain: **Christ is the Lord of His church, and He holds you always in His tender care. No matter what the numbers may look like, we can take heart – He will never let the testimony of His Word pass from His earth.**

Jesus loves your pastor and cares for your pastor's family – you can too! And each Lord's Day, Jesus meets with His gathered faithful and He sits with you at table, holding you always in His tender care. As Jesus lives,

Pastor Paul Egger

Pastor Paul Egger



**We love
our pastors!**

Thanks for ministering to our church.

Worship Times

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

St. Paul's Lutheran Church (Missouri Synod)

Worship Services Traditional—Every Saturday at 6:00 p.m. with Communion on the 1st & 3rd Saturdays:

Sunday Service—Every Sunday 10:45 a.m. with Communion on the 1st & 3rd Sundays

Sunday School & Disciple Training Hour—Sundays: 9:30 a.m.

Bible Study—Every Thursday at 9:00 a.m. in the Church Office Conference Room

Live Streaming—Sundays at 10:45 a.m. on www.facebook.com/StPaulsLutheranChurchSchool



*Bible
Studies*



Call Response - A Letter from Pastor Brett Satkowiak

September 16, 2026

Dear Saints of St. Paul's
Lutheran Church and School,

Greetings in the name of
God our Father and our Lord
Jesus Christ!

My family and I were both honored and humbled to hear of the decision of St. Paul's to call me as pastor this past Sunday. I have received the call documents, and we will be pouring over them in the coming weeks. For a simple guy like me, coming from where I started, called to the Christian faith and into the Lutheran church against all odds, it's consistently amazing that our Lord has placed me into this office of pastor in his church, and even more so that he continues to uphold me in it. It is certainly grace upon grace in every aspect of the phrase.

As we enter into this season of discernment with two divine calls before me, I want to assure you of our intention to join together with you all in prayer and reflection that the Holy Spirit would guide us into all truth according to Christ's promise (John 16:13), and our encouragement for the saints here at Faith to do the same.

We will be in touch, and in the meantime, God's richest blessings be upon you in this season and always.

Peace,
Pastor Brett Satkowiak

News & Notes



*****Fall Church Service Schedule:**

August to December 31

- **Traditional Services:** Every Saturday at 6:00 p.m. with communion on the 1st & 3rd Saturdays
- **Blended Service** at 10:45 a.m. Every Sunday with communion on 1st & 3rd Sundays. (services will be a combined Traditional/Contemporary)
- **Sunday Bible Study/Sunday School** will be at 9:30 a.m. every Sunday in the church basement.

150th Planning Committee: St. Paul's will be celebrating 150 years next year and we are beginning to put together a planning committee. If you are interested in helping plan our celebration events and services, please sign up in the back of the church by **Wednesday, Sept. 30.**

Life Chain: Join us as we pray and take a stand for life on National Life Chain Day, **Sunday, Oct. 4** from 2:00—3:30 p.m. at one of two locations in Sioux City; 19th and Hamilton Blvd. and Gordon Dr. and Stone Ave. Signs will be provided at each location. Questions call 712-252-0338.

Pastor Office Hours: Pastor James Travis office hours are Wednesday mornings (8:00 a.m.—noon). For an emergency he can be reached at 712-202-8516.

Important Communication Updates from Pastor Travis
New Congregational Texting and daily devotions Line: Pastor Travis has a new number for sending out group reminders and updates: 1-833-538-3075. Please do not block this number

Senior Youth Gathering: The Iowa District West Senior High Youth Gathering is designed for high school students in grades 9–12 and will be at Camp Okoboji **Oct 3-4**. Centered on the theme “Unshakable Light,” inspired by John 8:12 (“I am the light of the world”), the gathering aims to encourage and strengthen students in their Christian faith.

Youth Connect Annual Bonfire: All Siouxland youth (6th – 12th grade) are invited to a bonfire **Sat., Oct. 10** from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Copenhaver's Pasture. (19378 310th St. Sioux City). Families are welcome. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. There will be hayrides, campfires, snacks and fun! Please RSVP to Jen at 712-899-2927

Youth Corn Maze Trip: The youth are invited to come to Holly View Acres **on Saturday, Oct. 17** for a fun night at the pumpkin patch and corn maze. The group will meet at the south side of Fleet Farm parking lot to carpool to Holly View Acres at 1:30 p.m. The cost for the corn maze is \$8 for adults and \$6 for children aged 5-12.

Trunk or Treat: Join us for our annual trunk or treat night **Friday, Oct. 23** from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. inside our school gym. We are in need of families or individuals to decorate a table and hand out candy to all of our little visitors. Please sign up in the back if you are interested in hosting a booth. You can also donate candy. A box will be in the back of the church for all

your donations.

Junior Youth

Gathering: Join junior youth from across Iowa District West for an exciting weekend of faith, fellowship, and fun at the JR Youth Gathering 2026 **October 24-25** at the Sheraton Hotel in West Des Moines. Centered on the theme “Love God. Love People.” This event will inspire and encourage young people to grow in their faith, build lasting friendships, and deepen their relationship with Christ.

Conflict & Difficult Conversations Workshop Join Rev. Dr. Todd Jenks for a practical and faith-centered workshop on navigating conflict and difficult conversations with wisdom, confidence, and Christ centered communication on **Saturday, November 7** at the IDW District Office in Fort Dodge. This free event is open to all church workers and laity.

***We need pictures and names of past Confirmands:**

If you, your children, parents, grandparents or great-grandparents have a group picture for any of the following years, please bring it to the Church Office or email it to siouxcitystpauls@gmail.com. Physical pictures will be returned within a week. The missing years are: 1905, 1906, 1907, 1910, 1912, 1915, 1916, 1919, 1920, 1923, 1924, 1925, 1926, 1928, 1929, 1932, 1933, 1936, 1942, 1954, 1956, 1962, 1966, 1989, 1990, 1992, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2025. Names of confirmands in the pictures are needed for the following years: 1912, 1915, 1978, 1979, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993. Thank you for your help and for those that have already helped

Pray for Each Other: We ask your prayers on behalf of our friends in Christ who have been hospitalized and sick, Connie Spahn, Alan Seymour, Joe Rose, Sandra Murphy, Linda Arndt, Philip Hageman, Janice Hinrichsen, Lonnie Stuhr, Bernie Attema, Pat Berger-Conlon, Debbie Wolfe, and Vickie Johnson

The Woodbury County Fair Committee (Redeemer Lutheran Food Coop) extends a heartfelt thank you to everyone who supported this year's fair in Merville.

Donation Distribution: **\$4,000 each** was awarded to LWML, Siouxland LC-MS Youth, Bibi's Hope Orphanage, Boy Scouts, and St. Paul's Lutheran School. Additionally, **\$500** went to the Lamplighters, a local LC-MS mission project that visits area care facilities monthly.

Volunteer & Product Support: Success was made possible by numerous individuals donating time, money, and pies. Beyond pies, the booth sold jams, jellies, and pickles, and distributed free Thrivent Action T-shirts.

In-Kind Corporate Donors: Special thanks to Sutter Heating & Cooling, McCormack Dist., Iowa District West, Outback Steakhouse, Michael Foods, Empirical Foods, Thrivent Financial, Kwik Trip, Dairy Queen, Tastee Inn & Out, Freddy's, The Sign Shop, Seaboard Triumph, and Chick-Fil-A.

LWML Sunday: Join us on **Sunday, October 4** for Lutheran Women in Mission Sunday. This year's theme continues a four-year cycle focusing on the LWML Mission Statement — As Lutheran Women in Mission, we joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions, and equip women to honor God by serving others. For Lutheran Women in Mission Sunday 2026, we focus on Supporting Missions.

LWML Mites offering will be placed on the table in the back of the church on the first weekend of each month. Your donations are appreciated. Mite boxes are used to collect money for missions

Lutheran Women in Mission (LWML) Sioux City Zone is seeking nominations for the offices of President and President Elect/Vice President



(Oct. 2026-Oct. 2028). Any woman over the age of 18 years and who is a member of a church in our zone is eligible. Names of women to be considered or if you are interested in serving, please contact Margee Joines, VP LWML Sioux City Zone @ (712) 251-0366 or contact Joyce Santi, St Paul's LWML St Paul's Group President. Sioux City Zone Officers will be elected at the LWML

Sioux City Zone Fall Rally at Faith on **Sat, Oct 17th.**

Lutheran Women in Mission

Save the Date
for the LWML Sioux City Zone
Fall Rally at Faith Lutheran, on

Saturday, Oct 17th. Registration & Coffee at 9:00 AM, followed by devotions, mission speaker and business meeting. Concludes with salad luncheon and dessert. All ladies are encouraged to join us!

Sunday
OCTOBER 4, 2026

ST. PAUL'S WOMEN'S LEAGUE Sept. 3rd MINUTES

Our Women's League met on September 3rd with eight members present. Joyce Segebart was our hostess and served us delicious cheesecake. -Charlotte led us in a devotion on "The Tongue" taken from James 3:3-12. -Treasurer and secretary's reports were approved as written. -We sang happy birthday to Marlis Hilden. -Joyce Segebart reported on her attendance at the TLC Quilting Convention in Algona, Iowa at Trinity Lutheran Church. She had gotten two potholders and she is donating to our kitchen. -Wilma reported that the nineteen quilts from St. Paul's, sold for \$1005.00 at Okoboji. -Fall Rally will be at Faith on **October 17th**. Registration is 9-9:30 with a salad luncheon. -Spring Rally will be at Redeemer. -Marlis reported that they were short of workers at the Woodbury County Fair on the 8th and also on Sunday afternoon. -Mercy Meals – **November 7th** 9:30-11:30 and 10:30-12:30. - They are working on plans for the next Ladies Night Out which will be either **October 22 or November 17th** – to be announced. -Joyce Segebart offered to accept the Event chairman position. -LWML Sunday is **October 4th**. Marlis will pick up the two bouquets for the altar and Joyce will put up the LWML banner. We will have LWML bulletin covers for that weekend. -We sang Chief of Sinners Though I Be and How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds. -Motion to adjourn. -We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bernice Johnsen



Regular Scheduled Meetings

Sunday Disciple Training Hour-

- Sunday Bible Study will be at 9:30 a.m. in the church basement taught by Frank Tenuta.
- Sunday School will begin in the church sanctuary and end in the classrooms. Please pick up your children in the classrooms.

Thursday Morning Bible Study:

- Each **Thursday** at 9:00 a.m. in the office conference room.

Women's League Meeting:

- Meets the first Thursday of the month. The next meeting will be **Thursday, Oct. 1** at 1:00 p.m. in the church basement.

Finance Committee Meeting:

- will be **Monday, Oct. 5** at 7:00 p.m. in the church office conference room.

Evangelism Committee Meeting:

- Will meet at 4:30 p.m. every other Tuesday. Next meeting is on **Oct. 6** in church office conference room.

Elders' Meeting:

- will be **Tuesday, Oct. 6** at 7:00 p.m. in the church office conference room

Board of Education:

- will be on **Tuesday, Oct 6** at 7:00 p.m. in the teacher conference room.

Lamplighters:

- Meets on the first Wednesday of the month at 9:30 a.m. on **Oct. 7** at Calvary

Anna Circle/Sewing Group

- meets twice a month on the second and fourth Mondays. The next meetings are **Oct. 12 & 26** in the church basement.

Mary Martha Circle

- The next meeting will meet on **Monday, Oct. 19** at 6:00 p.m. at Perkins Eastside.

Friends of Christ:

- Friends of Christ will meet at Faith Lutheran for a Potluck Picnic on **Sunday, Oct. 25** for games and potluck supper, please bring a dish to share.

Youth Board meeting

- will be **Thursday, Nov 5** at 6:00 p.m. in the church conference room.



Trunk or Treat: Join us for our annual trunk or treat night **Friday, Oct. 23** from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. inside our school gym.

We are in need of families or individuals to decorate a table and hand out candy to all of our little visitors. Please sign up in the back if you are interested in hosting a booth.

You can also donate candy. A box will be in the back of the church for all your donations.

STAND FOR LIFE.
Change Hearts. Save Lives.



A PEACEFUL, PRAYERFUL WITNESS FOR LIFE



WE STAND
Silently.



WE PRAY
Faithfully.



WE WITNESS
Together.



SUNDAY
OCTOBER 4, 2026
2:00 - 3:30 p.m.



19th & Hamilton Blvd
and
Gordon Dr. & Stone Ave

Join us as we stand for life.

Signs will be available at each location
For More Information Call 712-252-0338



LOVE. LIFE. HOPE.

Your presence makes a difference.
ALL ARE WELCOME.

TRUNK OR TREAT

at St. Paul's Lutheran
612 Jennings St. Sioux City, IA 51101

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23
6:00 - 7:00PM

**FAMILY FUN with TRUNK OR
TREATING INSIDE OUR
SCHOOL GYM**

Please wear your costume and don't forget your treat bag!

Questions? Please contact the office at
712-252-0338 or siouxcitystpauls@gmail.com

St. Paul's
LUTHERAN
SCHOOL



OCTOBER

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
*****Education Hour/Sundays 9:30 -10:30 a.m.***** * Sunday Bible Study. in the church basement taught by Frank Tenuta. * Sunday School in Classrooms				1 9:00 a.m. Bible Study/Church Office 1:00 p.m. Women's League	2 1:00 p.m. School Early Out	3 6:00 p.m. Traditional Worship/Communion—Pastor James Travis
				Senior Youth Gathering		
4 LWML Sunday 9:30 a.m. Education Hour & Sunday School* 10:45 a.m. Blended Worship/Communion—Pastor Michael Awe 2:00 p.m. Life Chain	5 7:00 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting	6 4:30 p.m. Evangelism Meeting 7:00 p.m. Elders' Meeting/Church Office 7:00 p.m. Board of Ed Teacher conference room	7 9:00 a.m.—School Chapel 9:30 a.m. Lamplighters Calvary Lutheran 5:15 p.m. 6th & 7th Confirmation	8 9:00 a.m. Bible Study/Church Office	9	10 4:00 p.m. Youth Bonfire 6:00 p.m. Traditional Worship—Pastor Phillip Hannemann
11 9:30 a.m. Education Hour & Sunday School* 10:45 a.m. Blended Worship – Pastor Phillip Hannemann 	12 9 a.m. Sewing Club	13	14 9:00 a.m.—School Chapel 5:00 p.m. Youth Board Meeting 5:15 p.m.— 6th & 7th Confirmation Classed	15 9:00 a.m. Bible Study/Church Office	16 Picture Retake Day	17 9:00 a.m. LWML Fall Rally at Faith Lutheran 1:30 p.m. Youth Corn Maze HollyView Acres 6:00 p.m. Traditional Worship/Communion—Pastor Ron Benson
18 9:30 a.m. Education Hour & Sunday School* 10:45 a.m. Blended Worship/Communion – Pastor Ron Benson	19 6:00 p.m. Mary Martha Circle/Perkins-Eastside	20 4:30 p.m. Evangelism Meeting	21 9:00 a.m.—School Chapel 5:15 p.m.— 6th & 7th Confirmation Classed	22 9:00 a.m. Bible Study/Church Office	23  1:00 p.m. School Early Out 6:00 p.m. Trunk or Treat	24 6:00 p.m. Traditional Worship—Pastor James Travis
No School -Teacher Conference				Junior Youth Gathering		
25  9:30 a.m. Education Hour & Sunday School* 10:45 a.m. Blended Worship – Pastor Ezra Grabau	26 9 a.m. Sewing Club	27	28 9:00 a.m.—School Chapel 5:15 p.m.— 6th & 7th Confirmation Classed	29 9:00 a.m. Bible Study/Church Office	30 1:30 p.m. School Fall Party 	31 6:00 p.m. Traditional Worship/Communion—Pastor James Travis 

Marriage - Should I or Should I Not!

I am in the business of marrying people, and I have noticed lately that people are *not* getting married!

God designed man and woman not to be alone, but to be married. Not that some people cannot remain celibate, but most should get married. Scripture says, **“It is not good that the man should be alone”** (Genesis 2:18). I want to share with you four reasons why you should pursue marriage—and also several reasons why you should end a relationship sooner rather than later. But heed this warning: You must be equally yoked

Equally Yoked

That means you want to be “hitched” to someone going the same direction that you are going. If you are going to heaven and they are going to hell, your marriage will pull apart. This is why it is important to both be Christians and have generally the same thoughts about life. Sure, you can disagree with what kind of icecream you like, how much to spend on a car. That is called compromise. But if one person is giving money to planned parenthood to kill babies and the other is giving money to “Her Health Woman’s Center” to save babies - The marriage will not work. It is okay to ask deep questions when you are dating or courting. After all, dating is supposed to lead to marriage! If you are unequal, then break up! Yes, your pastor says break up before you get into trouble.

Permanent Boyfriends/Girlfriends - A Bad Thing?

I am starting to see what appear to be *permanent* boyfriends or girlfriends who have no intent of marriage as common. Why is this a problem? First of all, the family does not know whether to get to know the person or to stay away. “Boyfriend” or “girlfriend” by definition means someone who may not be permanent. By not getting married, you are forcing your family also not to be fully committed to the significant other. *Should they be in pictures? Should they be invited to Christmas? Should we give them a \$100 present on their birthday like we do everyone else? Should we fly to see them when they get sick?* Family can be tough, but family sticks together. Thank God Jesus views our relationship with Him like a marriage. **“I will betroth**

you to me forever” (Hosea 2:19). God is committed to us 100%. God is not our big boyfriend that might leave. Marriage is meant to be a reflection of our relationship with Jesus. If you are a perpetual boyfriend, it is time to make it permanent or leave, because you are missing out on what it really means to be part of an extended family. There is no “Rite of Boyfriend/Girlfriend” to bless such in the Bible or Lutheran Agenda!

1. Better Sex

Someone who is merely around for sex is really just being used. Whereas, when you are fully committed in marriage, sex becomes safe. You are not wondering if they will be around tomorrow or just disappear. Sex often leads to children, and having a committed



relationship means there will be two people to raise those children. If your significant other cannot commit, it is time to leave! There *are* other people who do want to commit. Many studies have shown sex is more frequent and more pleasurable in a committed marriage than in a live-in situation.

As St. Paul writes, **“The husband should give to his wife her conjugal rights, and likewise the wife to her husband”** (1 Corinthians 7:3). God designed marital intimacy to be mutual, secure, and joyful.

2. Leave, Cleave, and One Flesh

These are the words God used to describe the first marriage: **“A man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh”** (Genesis 2:24).

If you leave any of these out, you get a bad marriage relationship.

- If one person cannot *leave* his parents, you end up with someone continuing to spend all their time at home and not investing in their partner.

- *Cleaving* refers to commitment.

Without commitment, you have a one-night stand, a one-year stand, then a broken heart.

- Lastly, *one flesh*, better known as sex—without it, marriage is missing an important aspect of God’s design.

Talk about these when you date or court someone. If the other person is not willing to involve all three in the upcoming marriage relationship, it is time to leave the dating process.

Dr. Joel Biermann (Concordia Seminary) writes, *“Marriage is not a human invention but a divine institution. It is the arena in which God shapes His people through fidelity, sacrifice, and embodied love.”*

If someone refuses God’s design, they are refusing the very shape of Christian life.

3. Fear of Divorce

Many people cite this as their reason for not wanting to get married.

They experienced a messy divorce as a child and do not want to go through one as an adult.

Ironically, going through a nasty breakup without marriage is worse for the children. Why?

Because without marriage there are no laws for how to split up possessions etc.. There are no laws for visitation rights. Marriage—and even divorce—actually makes the process of the breakup clearer and more protective.

I am not endorsing divorce except in the case of unfaithfulness (Matthew 19:9), but not having a marriage can leave one party in a world of hurt if there is an affair. Get married.

President Matthew Harrison of the LCMS has said, *“Marriage is God’s good gift. It is the foundation of society, the cradle of children, and the school of love. We must encourage marriage, not fear it.”*

4. God Loves Marriage

The wedding does not have to be so big that the world is fed, and the bank account is emptied. You can get married with simply two witnesses, the pastor, and a \$35 check to pay for the license. You can party later when you can afford it, but making vows to one another is huge. People will respect you. At least your true friends.

I still believe two people should take at least six months to vet one another and

make sure you are really marrying a Christian, and that the other person really does believe in lifelong marriage. Ask them! Ask how many children they want. Ask and see if they will worship with you consistently in those months prior to getting married. Ask, "Are you going to church with me today?" Then go with them now! If they do it regularly, you know you have a keeper, especially if they do what they hear in church.

If they do not, like I said earlier, move on to someone else. Move on *before*

you have sex! Why? It is a lot easier. When you have sex, now you are committed intimately. Sex originally was how you got married! **"He knew her"** (Genesis 4:1) is covenantal language. In a sense, you are married without a license. If you have made a mistake, don't force a marriage. Instead, repent, receive forgiveness, and determine: Should we get married? Or is this person not a Christian and does not believe in marriage? Then walk away.

But walk away

or marry with confidence in Jesus, who forgives you. **"Where sin increased, grace abounded all the more"** (Romans 5:20). Praise God, we are still married to Jesus who will never leave you or forsake you! Jesus gets marriage!

Amen.

In Christ,

Pastor James Travis

**IOWA DISTRICT WEST
SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GATHERING**

UNSHAKABLE LIGHT

"I am the light of the world..." - John 8:12

unshakable light.

October 3-4, 2026

CAMP OKOBOJI

OPTIONAL EARLY ARRIVAL: OCTOBER 2

MAIN SPEAKERS Pastor Ryan Roehrig & DCE Hailey Jo Miller	WHO Senior High Youth (Grades 9-12)	COST \$90 (1 night) \$120 (2 nights)	PAYMENT One check per church payable to Iowa District West
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LOVE GOD **LOVE PEOPLE**

IOWA DISTRICT WEST JUNIOR YOUTH GATHERING

Sheraton Hotel
West Des Moines, IA
October 24-25, 2026

Youth Corn Maze Trip

**HOLLY VIEW
ACRES**

**Sat. Oct. 17
1:30 p.m.**

Meet at Fleet Farm

**Adults \$8
Children under 12 \$6**

CORN MAZE & PUMPKIN PATCH

BONFIRE

Sat., Oct. 10 4 to 8 pm

YOUTH CONNECT

6th grade to 12th grade

Families Welcome! Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.

**Hay Rides, Campfires, Hot Coco, Cider, Hot Dogs, S'Mores,
Petting Zoo and Pumpkins**

Located in the Copenhaver's Pasture
19378 310th Street Sioux City
4.5 miles west from Mike's Saloon on Hamilton Blvd
Please RSVP ~ Contact Jen 712-899-2927



Finding Strength, Peace, and Purpose in Everyday Life

Life often carries more than other people can see. There are bills to pay, families to care for, decisions to make, work to complete, and quiet burdens that may never be spoken aloud. Some seasons are full and joyful; others feel heavy, uncertain, or lonely. In every season, prayer remains a steady invitation to pause, breathe, and remember that we are not walking through life alone.

Prayer is more than a habit or religious routine. It is the turning of our hearts toward God and the opening of our lives to His peace, wisdom, and strength. Philippians 4:6–7 reminds us not to be anxious about anything, but to bring everything to God in prayer. The promise that follows is deeply comforting: God's peace can guard our hearts and minds even when our circumstances have not yet changed.

One of the most encouraging truths about prayer is that we do not have to come to God with perfect words. We can come with gratitude, questions, weariness, hope, grief, joy, and silence. We often feel pressure to appear strong and capable, but prayer gives us a place to be honest. God is not surprised by our needs, our doubts, or our emotions.

Psalm 46:10 says, *"Be still, and know that I am God."* This verse invites us to stop striving long enough to remember who holds our lives. Stillness in prayer may not always come easily, especially when our minds are full, but even a quiet moment before God can become a place of renewal.

Prayer does not mean life will be free from difficulty, but it can strengthen us for the difficulties we face. In prayer, we ask for patience when we are stretched thin, wisdom when decisions feel weighty, courage when fear rises, and forgiveness when our hearts

need healing. Prayer helps us see our circumstances through the lens of faith rather than fear.

Romans 12:12 encourages believers to be *"joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer."* That kind of faithfulness is not measured by long or impressive words. It is found in the steady choice to return to God again and again, trusting that He is present in every season.

Prayer is not simply a task to complete; it is a relationship to grow in. Like any meaningful relationship, prayer includes speaking and listening, asking and trusting, waiting and receiving. When adults feel alone or overwhelmed, prayer reminds us that God is near, attentive, and faithful.

Jesus offers a tender invitation in Matthew 11:28: *"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."* These words speak directly to the heart tired from carrying responsibilities, expectations, and concerns. Prayer is one way we accept that invitation and bring our burdens to Christ.

A prayerful life is not built all at once. It grows through small, faithful moments of turning toward God. Over time, prayer becomes a steady companion: a source of peace in uncertainty, strength in weakness, wisdom in decision-making, and hope in waiting. Prayer may not remove every burden, but it reminds us that we never carry our burdens alone.

Principal Pam Whightsil



St. Paul's Lutheran School 2026-2027 Calendar

August 2026							Days
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
						1	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	5
30	31						

September 2026							Days
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
		1	2	3	4	5	10
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	14
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	24
27	28	29	30				

October 2026							Days
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
				1	2	3	29
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	34
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	39
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	41
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	46

November 2026							Days
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	51
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	56
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	61
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	64
29	30						

December 2026							Days
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
		1	2	3	4	5	69
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	74
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	79
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
27	28	29	30	31			

August 11 Teacher Inservice
 Aug 18 Staff Pictures
 Aug 20 Registration 2-7pm
 Aug 24 First Day of School

Sept 4 Prof. Dev. Early Out – 1pm
 Sept 7 Labor Day No School
 Sept 4 Picture Day

Oct 2 PD Early Out – 1pm
 Oct 9 Picture Retake Day
 Oct 17-19 GPLEC
 Oct 20-21 No School
 Oct 23 End 1st Quarter Early Out-1pm (41 days)
 Oct 27 Parent/Teacher Conferences-Early out-1pm

Nov 6 Prof. Dev. Early Out – 1pm
 Nov 25 Early out – 1pm
 Nov 26-27 Thanksgiving – No School

Dec 4 Prof. Dev. Early Out – 1pm
 Dec 18 Christmas Break – Early Out – 1pm
 Dec 22-Jan 2 Christmas Break – No School

Jan 1 No School
 Jan 4 Classes Resume
 Jan 14 End 2nd Quarter – Early Out – 1pm (47 days)
 Jan 15 Teacher Workday – No School

Feb 5 Prof. Dev. Early Out – 1pm
 Feb 15 No School

March 5 PD Early Out 1pm
 March 11 – Spring Pictures
 March 19 End 3rd Quarter Early Out - 1pm (44 days)
 March 23 Parent/Teacher Con. Early out – 1pm
 March 24 Early out – 1 pm
 March 25-29 Easter Break

April 2 Prof. Dev. Early Out – 1pm

May 7 Prof. Dev. Early Out – 1pm
 May 27 Last Day of School Early Out - 1pm (46 days)
 May 28 Teacher Workday

January 2027							Days
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
					1	2	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	84
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	88
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	93
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	98
31							

February 2027							Days
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	103
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	108
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	112
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	117
28							

March 2027							Days
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	122
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	127
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	132
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	135
28	29	30	31				

April 2027							Days
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
				1	2	3	139
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	144
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	149
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	154
25	26	27	28	29	30		159

May 2027							Days
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
						1	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	164
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	169
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	174
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	178
30	31						

Yellow – Holidays and Days Off
Green – End Quarter
Orange – Early Outs
Blue – Classes Begin

Contact Hours

259.0 – 1st Quarter
 290.5 – 2nd Quarter
 278.5 – 3rd Quarter
 286.5 – 4th Quarter
 1,114.5 - Total Hours



You can help raise money for the school without selling stuff!
Scan you receipts, use gift cards and cash in your Casey 's rewards.

RaiseRight Gift Cards: You can stop in the office and pick up gift cards for almost anywhere you shop. If we don't have what you need on hand, we can always place an order or go to www.raiseright.com They even have an app that you can download and pay directly at the stores with a gift card purchased on the app. To set up your account online or on the app contact the school office or Scan the QR code to get started (Open your phone camera and point it at this code and a link will pop up on your phone to click on.).



Scan your BOX TOPS: after shopping, just scan your receipts on the Box Tops App and earn more money for the school. It is easy to participate. Download the Box Tops app, shop as you normally would, then use the app to scan your store receipt **within 14 days** of purchase.

The app will identify Box Tops products on your receipt and automatically credit your school's earnings online. Scan the QR code to get started (Open your phone camera and point it at this code and a link will pop up on your phone to click on.)



Hy-Vee Receipts:

The Hy-Vee Receipt program is officially back for St. Paul's Lutheran School! Please start saving your receipts beginning September 1. To qualify, receipts must be dated between **September 1, 2026**, and **April 1, 2027**, and come from any Sioux City or South Sioux City Hy-Vee location.

Thank you so much for supporting our students and school!



Thrivent Members Did you know? More members now have access to Choice Dollars®. **All Thrivent clients with membership** now have access to Choice Dollars—making it easier than ever to support organizations like ours. To see if you have Choice Dollars available log in or register at thrivent.com/thriventchoice or call 800-THRIVENT (800-847-4836)

\$250 Community Impact Gift Cards are also available (two per member per year). If you are willing and able please contact Pam at the school or just apply at www.Thrivent.com.



Casey's App: Pick up a gift card in the office for Casey's, go purchase gas and enter your Casey's rewards number and earn points. Cash in your rewards on their app for St. Paul's. Help St. Paul's make the most of this program and learn more at www.caseys.com/schools.



OCTOBER

Birthdays

10/01

Roxanne Aasen
Tara Felix
Shamayne Frank

10/02

Raven Lambert
Octavia Trobaugh
Jeff Wiese

10/03

Jacob Wagner

10/04

Sharon Godwin

10/08

Dru Dixon
Doug Lehr
Mary Seibold
Amber Wilkinson

10/09

Karen Baker

10/11

Chase Abbe
Carter Bertrand

Cole Bertrand
Bernice Johnsen
Lyle Listamann

10/12

Kamryn Behrens
Frank Heeren Jr.
Lila Jurries

10/13

Alyna Burke
Caroline Gomez

10/15

Cora Black
Jason Sulzbach

10/16

Max Comeaux
Nadia Tuttle
Beau Wagner

10/18

Valerie Lethcoe

10/19

Ashley Searls
Kinlie Wingert

10/20

Joe Sulzbach

10/21

Jeff Arndt
Nathan Rodenburg

10/22

Karen Fluent
Vicky Johnson
Shari Tramp

10/23

Jennifer Popken

10/25

Daniel Martin

10/27

Kevin Bock III
Jackson Haller

10/29

Caitlyn Haller
Trishia Martinez

10/30

Michael Mertens
Steve Rogers
Jessica Wilcox



10/06	Lyle & Tina Listamann	19
10/08	Jerry & Lynette Kroeger	49
10/10	Jason & Amber Gilmore	17
10/11	Austin & KC Jager	18
10/12	Richard & Leticia Grothaus	21

10/13	Michael & Connie Spahn	63
10/13	John & Angela Windle	25
10/14	Chris & Liz Hannemann	26
10/14	Tyler & Megan Haugen	3
10/17	Jeff & Laurie Baldwin	28
10/19	Chad & Ashley Porter	7
10/20	Jason & Amy Sulzbach	20
10/21	Jason & Jackie Marrinan	25
10/22	James & Niki Knowles	15
10/22	Anthony & Cynthia Olson	43

**St. Paul's Lutheran
Church and School**
612 Jennings St.
Sioux City, IA 51101-1820



Church Office 712- 252-0338
School Office 712-258-6325
Church Email: siouxcitystpauls@gmail.com
School Email: office@stpaulssiouxcity.org
Websites: www.siouxcitystpauls.org
www.SPLS-SC.com

St. Paul's Lutheran Church (Missouri Synod)

Worship Services - Traditional –Every Saturday at 6:00
p.m. with Communion on the 1st & 3rd Saturdays:
Sunday Service—Every Sunday 10:45 a.m. with
Communion on the 1st & 3rd Sundays
Sunday School & Disciple Training Hour— Sundays:
9:30 a.m.
Live Streaming—Sundays at 10:45 a.m. on
www.facebook.com/StPaulsLutheranChurchSchool

October Readers, Ushers, Elders, PP and Acolytes

Altar Guild: Liz Sanders and Ryder Huff

October 2026	Sat 6:00	Sun 10:45
1st week Oct. 3-4 Readers	Doug Lehr	Ralph Schroeder
Ushers	Steve Segebart	Tim Draube
Elders	Randy Johnson	Tim Draube
PowerPoint/Live Stream	Joyce Segebart	Sarah Gunn
Acolytes	Maxwell Knowles	Elle Adams & Attalie Strong
2nd week Oct. 10-11 Readers	Dallas Schulz	Jami Langholdt
Ushers	Dallas Schulz	Aaron Guillaume
PowerPoint/Live Stream	Liz Sanders	Hannemanns
Acolytes	Adelyn Zediker	Abby and Haden
3rd week Oct. 17-18 Readers	Marlis Hilden	Frank Tenuta
Ushers	Doug Lehr	Dallas Schulz
Elders	Randy Johnson	Frank Tenuta
PowerPoint/Live Stream	Joyce Segebart	Jami Langholdt
Acolytes	Harrison Knowles	Jackson Haller
4th week Oct. 24-25 Readers	Bob Greene	Brandi Beller
Ushers	Nick Gunn	Tim Draube
PowerPoint/Live Stream	Liz Sanders	Sarah Gunn
Acolytes	Ryder Huff	Mason Granstrom