



*“For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome. For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?”*  
1 John 5:3-5 ESV

One of the sights I have enjoyed the middle of January and on is the transformation from Christmas to Valentine’s at Great River Inn Bed & Breakfast. It has been fun to see how Susan, my wife, transforms the house often reusing the Christmas decorations and adapting them to the new season. Here and there throughout the house, and often in surprising places, a piece used to celebrate the birth of Jesus stays on and is used in a new way to celebrate romantic love. It is also fun to know that we will have a least one couple enjoy the décor as they celebrate Valentine’s Day at our Inn.

Love. It is a curious thing. Tina Turner called it a second hand emotion. The Beatles said it was all we need. I once told a girl I loved her. In her wisdom and recognizing the difference between love and infatuation, she replied, “No you don’t.” We often hear, in our world today, that love wins.

What we really have is a failure to understand how to properly define love, especially love as it relates to God and His love toward us.

The love of God (that is from God) and the love of God (that is our love for Him) as given in Scripture is not about feelings or emotions. When we read that God is love, the meaning is not about a cosmic ball of good feelings. When we read that God so loved the world, we are not to understand that God has a big fluffy ball of good feelings for us. While *grace* can be defined as that which gives joy, delight, and pleasure; we are not to understand that God feels anything for us when He says He loves us. Instead because God is gracious toward us, He (in that way that can only be accepted by faith) became a human so that He could be humbled even to death on a cross. That God loves us is seen in that He gave Himself in the perfect and final sacrifice to take away sin. Yes, Jesus (who is God) died; He sacrificed Himself so that we might be set free from our bondage to sin and death.

In like manner, our love for God should not be thought of in terms of feelings. We may have good feelings for and about God: but if we love God, we show it by keeping His commandments. The beauty of this relationship is that Jesus fulfilled the commandments for us in order to forgive and save us. The beauty of this relationship is that Jesus transforms us through that forgiveness so that we want to return love to Him as He loved us. We, when we love God, want to sacrifice our own desires to become obedient to His desires. The beauty of this relationship is that God’s desires for us are not burdensome. As a matter of fact God has given us and continues to give us victory over our sin by giving us faith; and faith is evident in that we believe, in that we trust, that Jesus is the Son of God.

God loved us and gave Himself for us. His sacrificial gift includes grace, faith, forgiveness, a new relationship, and eternal life. He transforms us so that we desire to love Him, too. Our love for Him is shown in our obedience in faith.

Happy Valentine’s Day!

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Christian Andrews

### 2016 Lent Schedule

5:15pm Lenten Supper, 6:30pm Worship Service

<b>February 10</b>	<b>Ash Wednesday</b>	<b>Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21</b>
<b>February 17</b>	<b>“Beneath the Cross of Jesus”</b>	<b>Luke 23:33, 34</b>
<b>February 24</b>	<b>“Ah, Holy Jesus”</b>	<b>Luke 23:39-43</b>
<b>March 2</b>	<b>“What Wondrous Love Is This”</b>	<b>John 19:24c-27</b>
<b>March 9</b>	<b>“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”</b>	<b>Matthew 27:45-46</b>
<b>March 16</b>	<b>“Oh Sacred Head, Now Wounded”</b>	<b>John 19:28, 29</b>

**Please pray for...** Paul Erickson, the family of Ted Mason, the family of Judy Smetana, Carol Meidl; Amanda Havemeier (Jody Krebs' niece), Tabor Gluth and all those serving in the military, at home and abroad.

**Prayer Chain** – If you have a prayer concern you would like passed along to the Prayer Chain, please call Jan Severson (723-6358) or the church office (723-5880). Please specify if you want the concern on (1) the Prayer Chain and/or (2) included in Sunday morning prayers which will be included for **two** Sundays unless otherwise specified or request is renewed.

Memorials Given From 12/21/15 to 1/20/16



<b>In Memory:</b>	<b>Given by:</b>	<b>Designated for:</b>
Charles & Gladys Bigot	Carla Larosa Connie Tell	St. Paul Cemetery Fund
Ed Pautzke	Friends of the Family Friends of the Family	St. Paul Good Shepherd Scholarship St. Paul General Fund

**Budget Recap & Attendance Year-To-Date (01/01/16 to 01/23/16)**

Given to Budget	\$4,759.00	Operating Income	\$4,759.00
Budget	<u>\$10,804.62</u>	Operating Exp.	<u>\$10,529.92</u>
Difference	(\$6,045.62)	Difference	(\$5,770.92)



**Attendance Worship Services**

Sun, Jan 3 - 9am 94, 11am 12      Sun, Jan 10 - 9am 61, 11am 17      Sun, Jan 17 - 9am 89, 11am 16  
 Sun, Jan 24 - 9am 90, 11am 17

**Deadlines:**

**Sunday Bulletin:** Wednesday by 10 am.

**Epistle:** 20th of each month.

Please call or email Katie at the church office with additions to or changes for the bulletins or Epistle. 507-723-5880 [stpaul\\_lutheran@hotmail.com](mailto:stpaul_lutheran@hotmail.com)

**Please refrain from driving on or parking on the church parking lot until it has been cleared of snow. Thank you.**



**Easter Egg Hunt** - Crissy Rogotzke will be heading up the Easter Egg Hunt again this year. We are in need of candy donations! If you would like to help out, please drop off your donations at the church office.

**Easter Flowers**

To order: Contact the church office by Wednesday, March 9th.

Flowers must be paid for when ordered.

Please make checks payable to St Paul Lutheran.

Easter Lily: \$14.00 (One Size)

Oriental Lily: \$18.00

Begonia: \$15.00



## **ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH SUMMARY OF THE JANUARY COUNCIL MEETING -UNAPPROVED**

President called the meeting to order at 7:30pm. Sharon Rogotzke read Pastor Christian's devotions.

Approved the Secretary's Report from the December 9, 2015 Council Meeting.

Approved the Financial Report.

### **BUILDING & GROUNDS**

Gary and Pastor did some minor fixes at the parsonage.

Some painting and spackle needs to be done at the parsonage before the new pastor comes—especially the bathroom on the main floor.

Some square glass blocks in the basement are cracked but not leaking.

\*Sound---we need a legal outlet in the Sacristy

Russell ordered/donated a new mic—like the one in the choir loft on the stand

New Life has been here twice for minor adjustments. The system should adjust itself within limits. It was questioned whether the speakers under the balcony are working.

\*Projection Screen---Approved to go with New Life Communications bid of \$18,764.06 for projection screen and equipment.

\*Carpet---Approved to go with Hayden's bid for J&J Invision baroque & Palladian carpet---main floor \$16,196.67; upper level & steps \$10,885.25; lower level & steps \$8747.00 for a total of \$35,828.92.

The marble under the baptismal font comes in 12"x12" squares with 4"x4" squares around the perimeter.

Approved to go with Miesen's bid for Emperador light marble under the baptismal font for \$1,995.25

### **Parish Education Report**

For the Bible Camp Fund they may try the money board.

It was requested to change Senior Sunday from May 1 to May 8, 2016.

\*Youth Group---the Pastor has been communicating with the leaders.

Approved to have the Elementary Youth Group leaders follow protocol immediately or else be replaced.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Call Committee---Approved the appointments of Connie Knutson, Dan Longsdorf, and Harmon Quesenberry to the Call Committee.

\*Pastor Christian's last day will be May 22, 2016 unless we have a new pastor before then.

Budget for Annual Meeting -Approved the Budget for the Annual meeting

Ballot for the Annual Meeting -Tabled it since it was not filled in yet

Installation Sunday -Approved to have installation of the Church Council on Sunday, February 7, 2016

Congregational Meeting Agenda-Leave as is

German Supper---April 6, 2016

We can get as many individual packets of ketchup and mustard as we want from Tommy's.

Approved to adjourn at 10:00pm with the Lord's Prayer

Rhonda L. Larson - Church Council Secretary

## **ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING ON DECEMBER 9, 2015**

President Jan Kratz called the meeting to order at 7:30pm.

Present: Jan Kratz, Kurt Glaeseman, Kathy Pederson, Rhonda Larson, Elsie Groebner, Sharon Rogotzke, Doug Gatzlaff, Russell Rogotzke, Paul Muske, Gary Renner and Connie Knutson. Also Present: Katie Mueller---Parish Coordinator, Anita Jensen---Financial Secretary—

Sharon Rogotzke read Pastor Christian's devotions.

Note---Kurt G. will be doing the fruit for the Christmas bags.

M/S/P to accept the Secretary's Report from the November 11, 2015 Council Meeting.

M/S/P to accept the Financial Report.

### **BUILDING & GROUNDS**

A decoration on the steeple fell off and is laying on the roof/gutter. Krause will come and look at it with the crane. They will determine if it was put up incorrectly or if mother nature knocked it off. We are responsible for fixing it if it was mother nature.

M/S/P to pay for fixing the steeple decoration being put back if it is our responsibility.

\*Carpets---Haydens Furniture is the cheapest.

Sacristy---looking at vinyl planking instead of carpeting. Carpet committee suggests removing front 2 pews on west side and the pew along the west wall. Baptismal Font---looking at a 6ft circle of marble or granite for it to sit on.

\*Sound---New Life hopes to come Dec 21 & 22 to install the new system.

M/S/P to have the new sound system put in Dec 21 & 22, 2015.

\*Projection Screen---Dec 15th AVE is coming to submit a bid. Getting more bids.

M/S/P to table til January when we have all the bids.

Zinnel Electric bid \$1946.60 for the electrical work associated with the screen.

Jeff Ellefson estimated about \$2200 for 6'x10' tempered glass to cover the tapestry.

### **PARISH EDUCATION REPORT**

Luther League is doing a lock-in in April.

Elementary Youth Group---no members came to the meeting. The Policy Committee developed an Elementary Youth Group policy that is in line with the Luther League policy.

M/S/P to accept the Elementary Youth Group policy.

Suggested Parish Ed bring their budget recommendations to the Budget committee in Sept. There needs to be money budgeted for confirmation materials.

Continued...

## OLD BUSINESS

\*Call Committee---the committee recommends Eric Hullstrom from Jackson, MN. He has 11 ½ years preaching experience. He is married with 2 children.

M/S/P to accept the Pastor Proposed Salary and that he (Eric) be called.

December 27, 2015 will be the congregational vote for the Pastoral Call.

\*Christmas Services---Pastor Christian will do services Dec 24 & 25 and have Dec 27th off.

Suggestion was made to have a Gideon speaker on Dec 27th with a Hymn sing Sunday.

\*Snow Removal---approved at the November 22, 2015 special meeting.

\*Christmas Program---There will be coffee talk from 9-10am before the 10am program. Treat bags will be handed out after the program.

## NEW BUSINESS

\*Nominating Committee---needs to meet

Members are Paul Muske, Doug Gatzlaff, Crissy Rogotzke, Doug Jeske, Craig Valentin, & Jody Krebs.

\*Member visits---Members visited 23 shut-in members on Dec 5th. Thank you to the 1st & 2nd grade class for coloring the gift bags that were given to the shut-ins. Thank you to Larry & Kathy Pederson for donating the gifts for the gift bags. Thank you to the members who did the visiting---Larry & Kathy Pederson, Russell & Betsy Rogotzke, John Kaseforth, John Mueller, Gary Renner, Ed Meidl, & Daniel Kettner.

\*Memorial Loan---have the money to pay it back.

M/S/P to pay back the memorial loan.

Jody bought a new Oreck vacuum.

Suggested to invite Ed Meidl to the Council meeting when we discuss the next German Supper.

M/S/P to adjourn at 9:20pm with the Lord's Prayer.

Rhonda L. Larson - Church Council Secretary

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## **Ingham Okoboji Lutheran Bible Camp - Summer 2016**

Registration for Summer Bible Camp is now open at Ingham Okoboji! Below you will find the camps available for our K-9th graders. Early bird registration ends March 1st. Scholarships will be available from the Board of Parish Education; more information coming soon! Ingham Okoboji is offering an additional \$10 discount since St. Paul Lutheran is a camp association congregation. You can register online at <http://www.okoboji.org/programs/youth/> or stop by the church office for a registration form.

### **Camp-in-a-Day (has completed grades K-2) Dates 2016: \$34**

**Camp-in-a-Day #1**– June 22

**Camp-in-a-Day #2**– June 23

**Camp-in-a-Day #3**– July 13

**Camp-in-a-Day #4**– July 14

These one-day camps will give a great taste of what camp is like. Joining in with the chapel times, meals and free time, the campers will also enjoy special Bible studies and activities geared just for them! This camp runs from 9:30 am-4:30 pm **at our Ingham site**, so you can either drop off your youngster for the day or if you are coming from a distance, feel free to spend the day with us while your children enjoy the camp experience.

### **Pathfinders (has completed grades 2-5) Dates 2016: \$139 by March 1st, \$179 after**

Pathfinders #1- June 19-21

Pathfinders #2- June 26-28

Pathfinders #3- July 10-12

Pathfinders #4- July 17-19

As our youngest overnight camp, Pathfinders camp **at our Ingham site** is designed to nurture childlike faith and teach campers what Bible camp is all about. Campers will love the atmosphere, the counselors, and the fun chapel times. They will stay two nights in a cabin with other campers their age and one of our trained summer counselors. They will also get a taste of exciting outdoor adventure like canoeing, paddle boating, swimming and hiking! With age appropriate Bible Studies and exciting camp activities, Pathfinders will discover how God can use them even at a young age to impact the world around them.

### **Trailblazers (has completed grades 4-6) Dates 2016: \$339 by March 1st, \$379 after**

Trailblazers #1- June 19-24

Trailblazers #2- June 26-July 1

Trailblazers #3- July 10-15

Trailblazers #4- July 17-22

The Trailblazers camp experience **at our Ingham site** is designed to draw campers into a deeper faith relationship with their Savior. At a full week of camp, Trailblazers will have a blast with all-camp activities, engaging Bible studies, action-packed Chapel times and delicious food. Plus, there is plenty of free time to swim, canoe, paddleboat, check out the game room, or play on the playground. So bring a friend and join us for Trailblazers camp!

### **Junior High Camp (has completed grades 6-9) Dates 2016: \$339 by March 1st, \$379 after**

Okoboji Junior High Camp- July 10-15

Ingham Junior High Camp- July 24-29

Have you ever wanted to be a part of something bigger than yourself, something to give you a sense of belonging, purpose and mission? Then Junior High camp at Ingham and Okoboji is the PERFECT place to be! Camp is a great place to meet lots of new friends, discover more about what it means to be a Christian, and find out how the Almighty God wants to be in a relationship with YOU! There are hilarious skits, personal messages, and Bible studies all centered on our theme. Besides that, you'll have tons of FUN at the lake, playing games or just hanging out. Whether you come by yourself, with a friend or with your whole youth group, this will be a week you'll never forget!



# February 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1		2 11:00 Staff Meeting 7:00 Ch. 8 Broadcast 7:30 Parish Ed Meeting	3 6:00 Luther League 6:15 Confirmation 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	4	5 OFFICE CLOSED	6
7 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School Coffee Talk 10:30 Ch. 8 Broadcast 11:00 Contemporary Worship	8	9 11:00 Staff Meeting 7:00 Ch. 8 Broadcast	10 Ash Wednesday 5:15 Meal 6:30 Worship 7:00 Choir Rehearsal 7:30 Council Meeting	11	12 OFFICE CLOSED 2:00 Bingo @ SJLH	13
14 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School Coffee Talk 10:30 Ch. 8 Broadcast 11:00 Contemporary Worship	15 1:30 Downtown Estates HC	16 10:00 SJLH Service HC 11:00 Staff Meeting 3:30 The Maples HC 7:00 Ch. 8 Broadcast	17 5:15 Meal 6:30 Worship 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	18 7:00 pm Book Club	19 OFFICE CLOSED	20
21 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School Coffee Talk 10:30 Ch. 8 Broadcast 11:00 Contemporary Worship 1:30 Elem. Youth Group	22	23 11:00 Staff Meeting 7:00 Ch. 8 Broadcast	24 5:15 Meal 6:30 Worship 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	25	26 OFFICE CLOSED	27
28 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School Coffee Talk 10:30 Ch. 8 Broadcast 11:00 Contemporary Worship	29					

## 9:00 am Worship Service

Date	Sound & Video	Reader	Acolyte	Greeters	Usher
02/07	Alex Quesenberry	Connie Knutson	Courtney Wendt Jonathan Longsdorf	Dustin & Tiffany Trapp	Team 4
02/14	Russell Rogotzke	Daniel Kettner	Ashlyn Rosenau Julia Groebner	Gertie Rosenau, Audrey Rositzke, Leona Schottle	Team 1
02/21	Matt Solmonson	Paul Muske	Kyle Quesenberry Ethan Langseth	Doug & Marcia Schiller	Team 2
02/28	Tim Vogel	Kristin Rogotzke	Randell Streich Kaden Jensen	Mike & Barb Marz	Team 3

Sharon Rogotzke has been asked to call Greeters, Readers and Acolytes reminding them of their Sunday. **In order to avoid confusion, please call Sharon at 723-5117 if you will be gone and have found a substitute.**

## 11:00 am Contemporary Worship

Date	Leader
02/07	Kathy Pederson
02/14	Katie Mueller
02/21	Jeff Krueger
02/28	Megan Quesenberry

### Delivering bulletins in February

4 - Gene Gramentz  
11 - Leona Schottle  
18 - Dalores Stern  
25 - Kay Hagert

### February Altar Guild

Barb Marz  
Rhonda Larson  
Ashley Larson

If you are unable to help, please find a substitute or switch months with someone.



### February Anniversaries!

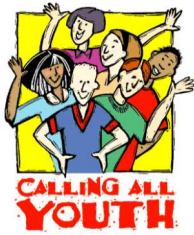
12 - Glen & Mavis Erickson  
12 - Marvin & Fern Wendland  
26 - Gary & Nancy Renner

### February Birthdays!

<p>1 - Don Wilstermann 2 - Donna Wersal 3 - Ellen Amsden 3 - Brendon Buerkle 4 - Braxton Brown 4 - Jennifer Henrichs 4 - Russ Voge 5 - Kim Gluth 7 - John Gluth 7 - Dustin Henrichs 8 - Colleen Meidl 10 - Dale Danielson 10 - Gabriella Schenk 13 - James Asmus 13 - John Kaseforth 14 - Austin Hagert 14 - Paul Meidl 14 - Jamie Stark 16 - Brooke Huiras 16 - William Vogel 16 - Tayte Zihlke 18 - Kelly Fenger</p>	<p>19 - Troy Gramentz 20 - Elvira Renner 20 - Roger Vanderwerf 21 - Dalton Langseth 21 - Stacy Little 21 - Adalyn Rudolph 21 - Jena Veenstra 22 - Alexis Huiras 22 - Jason Kettner 22 - Justin Schmidt 23 - Angel Clemon 23 - Ardella Wilstermann 23 - Richard Zihlke 26 - Nicole Nachreiner 27 - Duane Streich</p>
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### Elementary Youth Group

We are meeting on February 21st from 1:30-4:00pm. Elementary Youth Group is open to preK-6th grades. Contact Kelly Jandura or Nikki Nachreiner if you are interested in learning more.



Luther League Meeting -- February 3rd @ 6:00 pm --  
-- Grades 7-12 Welcome -- Come join the FUN!!!! --  
Serving supper Ash Wednesday, February 10th  
And Coffee Talk on February 28th.  
Annual Progressive Supper is February 28th.

**Help wanted.** Part-time Housekeeper. Approximately 20 hours a week. Must be self-motivated. Duties include general housekeeping throughout the building; vacuuming and washing floors and rugs, dusting, cleaning kitchen and bathrooms, emptying garbage, setting up tables, changing banners and other seasonal decorating, other tasks as assigned. Occasional weekend work may be required in the event of funerals, weddings or other functions. Applications can be picked up at the church office Monday-Thursday 8am-3pm or online at [www.splcspringfield.org](http://www.splcspringfield.org).

**BINGO Helpers are needed for February 12th** at 2:00 pm at SJLH. Please call the church office (723-5880) if you are able to help out!

**The new pictorial directory's have come in!** If you had your picture taken for the directory or if you submitted a picture, you may stop by the church office to pick yours up.

**Reminder!** Please remember to pick up your 2016 offering envelopes. They are located in the upper Narthex. Thank you!

**Volunteers are needed to sign up for Coffee Talk!**

**Sign Up for Lenten Meals** in the fellowship hall.

**Your 2015 Giving Statements are in your church mailboxes.**

**The annual Meeting of St. John Lutheran Home Corporation** will be held on Monday, February 22, 2016, at 7:00 PM in the Chapel of the Good Shepherd. All delegates and interested parties are invited to attend. An agenda will be available at the meeting.

**Save the Date for our Annual Church Bowling party on** March 13th at 2:00 pm at the Springfield Lanes. Sign up is in the fellowship hall or on Facebook.



**Springfield Community Theatre presents "Something to Do on a Saturday Night"**

Sat., February 20 at 7:00 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center at Springfield Public School... Admission is free but there will be a free-will offering collected with funds going to Prairie Fire Children's Theatre in June. If interested in performing in the Show, contact Sharon Rogotzke (5117) or Jeff Krueger (4225 or 4321) or stop by the Advance-Press office.

Redwood Area Hospital Adult Grief Support Group beginning February 2nd. For more information call 507-637-4617.



**St. Paul Lutheran  
Church, LCMC**  
303 N Cass Avenue  
Springfield, MN 56087

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Calendar Highlights - February 2016

10 - Ash Wednesday Meal 5:15pm, Service 6:30pm

12 - BINGO at SJLH @ 2:00 pm

17 - Lenten Meal 5:15pm, Service 6:30pm

24 - Lenten Meal 5:15pm, Service 6:30pm

**We are on the Web!**  
[www.splcspringfield.org](http://www.splcspringfield.org)

**Phone: 507-723-5880**

**Fax: 507-723-8712**

**Office Hours**

Pastor: J. Christian Andrews

Sunday-Wednesday

[jcandy1958@gmail.com](mailto:jcandy1958@gmail.com)

Parish Coordinator: Katie Mueller

Mon-Thurs 8:00 am - 3:00 pm

Email: [stpaul\\_lutheran@hotmail.com](mailto:stpaul_lutheran@hotmail.com)

Housekeeper: Jody Krebs

Maintenance: Ed Meidl

Financial Secretary: Anita Jensen

[Fin\\_secretary@newulmtel.net](mailto:Fin_secretary@newulmtel.net)

St. Paul EPISTLE is a publication of St. Paul Lutheran Church. It is published monthly to keep members and friends informed of programs and ministries of the church.



Articles may be submitted for publication subject to content.

**SUNDAY**

**Worship at 9:00am**

**Coffee Talk at 10:00**

**Sunday School at 10:00**

**Contemporary Worship 11:00**

**Springfield Area Food Shelf hours**  
**Monday 9:30am – 11:30am**  
**Thursday 5:00pm – 7:00pm**  
**804 East Rock Street - Springfield, MN 56087**  
**507-723-4120**