



I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

Philippians 1:6

In a sermon a couple of weeks back, I suggested that for Lent, instead of giving something up for Lent, you add something to deepen your spiritual life. The point is not to try to earn God's love. God could not love you any more than he already does. Jesus died on the cross for your sins because of the depth of God's personal love for you. Nor is it the point to try to become a better Christian. God takes the lead event in this task through the power of his Holy Spirit.

No, the reason to add some sort of spiritual discipline to your life during the season of Lent is to open your eyes to the depth of God's love and how He is blessing you and working in your life.

Here are several suggestions:

- If you haven't attended mid-week services on a regular basis in the past, do so this Lent.
- Read a devotional book like Junk Drawer Jesus, Hitchhiking with the Prophets, Prodigal God, Simply Christian, or Mere Christianity.
- Memorize a portion of Scripture. Here are a couple of suggestions: Psalm 23, Psalm 139:1-18, Isaiah 40:28-31, John 3:16-17, Romans 8:37-39, Romans 12:1-2, Galatians 3:28-29.
- Pray daily for someone who has hurt you. Pray that they might be blessed.
- Volunteer in a new way.

Those are just a few recommendations. Use one of the above suggestions, or with some thought, you can develop your own idea. The point is to do something that will open your eyes to God's grace working in your life. Like Paul, I am confident that God, who has begun a good work in you, will fulfill it on the day of Christ Jesus.

Be Hope-filled, Stay Strong and God Bless,

Pastor Carl

**St. Paul Lutheran Church
Council Meeting
February 12, 2025**

The meeting was called to order by Jake Marz at 7:45 pm

Members Present: Jake Marz, Kim Graff, Kelly Sargent, Angel Rummel, Andy Renner, Paul Muske, Pastor Carl Billings, Katie Mueller, and Anita Jensen.

Absent: Kathy Pederson, Sarah Groebner and Randy Wendt.

Opening Prayer: Pastor Carl
Consent Agenda - M/S/P by Kelly Sargent and Paul Muske

Secretary's Report – Approved
Financial Statement – M/S/P by Paul Muske and Kelly Sargent

Building & Grounds:

*Lowell Helget will be doing trim for window at the parsonage as old trim did not fit. Billing will be sent to insurance.

*Bisbee out of Marshall will be contacted by Paul Muske to discuss Sanctuary & Sacristy ceiling/vent repairs. Paul is also going to contact Miesen's regarding advice on painting of the ceiling.

*Boilers are not working properly. Old valves were used when installed instead of new ones. Stick with the boiler installer for warranty purposes.

Parish Ed:

*Parish Ed to cover ½ of Bible Camp Fees again. The church will cover another ¼ from the Spiritual Growth Fund. "New" this year-requiring each family receiving bible camp scholarship money to serve one Lenten supper meal. M/S/P by Paul Muske and Kelly Sargent.

Pastor's Report:

*Confirmation Classes will split during Lent with each to their own church and will be working on "Life Story"

*Will combine Confirmation Sunday service with St. Johns and will be at St Paul's on May 4th @ 10:00 am.

*Pastor Carl would like to see St Paul's & St Johns continue to do projects together. Continued activities: Feed My Starving Children, Community Night Out, Rally Sunday

*Pastor planning to work more remotely this summer.

Call Committee Report:

*Nothing to Report – Looking at doing a brochure to send to all LCMC Congregations.

Good Samaritan & Pastor Discretionary Fund:

*Reviewed policy for the Good Samaritan and Pastor Discretionary Fund. Made a couple adjustments and M/S/P by Kelly Sargent and Angel Rummel to approved with amendments made.

Council/Committee Appointments:

*M/S/P by Kelly Sargent and Angel Rummel to table

Approval of Signatures for Accounts:

*Approve Kelly Sargent, Jacob Marz, Katie Mueller, and Anita Jensen to conduct financial transactions for St. Paul Lutheran Church. Paul Muske will be removed from the accounts. M/S/P by Paul Muske and Angel Rummel to approve account changes.

Lenten Suppers:

*6 Suppers starting Wed March 5th – Ash Wed

-- Meals Served 5:00-6:00 pm

-- Confirmation 5:30-6:00 pm

-- Service at 6:30 pm

-- Council will serve Ash Wed

-- Bible Camp Scholarship Recipient's will serve Lenten Suppers, as well as Choir and Parish Ed

Closing Prayer: -- The Lord's Prayer

Adjourned: -- 8:45 PM

Submitted by Kim Graff
Council Secretary

2024 Church Council

Jacob Marz - Chair
Kim Graff - Secretary Kelly Sargent - Treasure
Randy Wendt Paul Muske
Kathy Pederson Angel Rummel
Sarah Groebner Andy Renner

Help us keep our Church Directory up to date!
We would like to get updated pictures of each member family for the directory.
If you have a nice family photo you would like to use instead, you can email a copy to Katie at stpaul_lutheran@hotmail.com at any time.

St Paul Attendance

2/2 9 am - 84 2/9 9 am - 72 2/16 9 am - 51 2/23 9 am - 86

Budget Recap Year-To-Date (01/01/25 to 2/24/25)

Total Funds for Budget	\$29,595.06	Total Operating Funds	\$29,595.06
Budget	\$36,605.84	Operating Exp.	\$35,143.56
Difference	(\$7,010.78)	Difference	(\$5,548.50)

Memorials Given 1/30/2025—2/23/2025

In Memory:	Given by:	Designated for:
Patsy Evers	Rod & Rhonda Larson	Good Shepherd Scholarship Fund
Janette Pidde	Rod & Rhonda Larson	Good Shepherd Scholarship Fund
Curtis Miller	Rod & Rhonda Larson	Good Shepherd Scholarship Fund
Maurice Hagen	Robert Rogotzke & Family	St. Paul Lutheran Church

2025 Offering Envelopes are available in the Narthex.

Your year end giving statements are in your church mailboxes.

Thrivent Financial—As always, St. Paul Lutheran Church is grateful for your consideration when you make charitable giving plans. If you are a Thrivent Financial member eligible to direct Choice DollarsSM, we ask you to consider St. Paul Lutheran as you help direct Thrivent Financials charitable funds.

Direct Giving opportunities are available all year long here at St. Paul's!
Enjoy the convenience of not having to find your envelopes and write out a check each week. These direct gifts are set up through your bank and can be customized by amount and frequency to fit your needs! If you are interested in signing up for Direct Giving talk to Katie in the office or contact your bank today!

Deadlines:

Sunday Bulletin: Wednesday by 10 am.

Epistle: 20th of each month. Please call or email the church office with additions or changes for the bulletins or Epistle. stpaul_lutheran@hotmail.com

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• Notice: Please update your phone numbers and/or email address with the church office!
• Several of the numbers we have are disconnected and we need to know how to get a hold of you!
• You can leave a note in the box outside of Katie’s office, call or email the church office at 507-723-5880 or stpaul_lutheran@hotmail.com. We appreciate you keeping us updated!
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“St Paul’s Cares” meals are in the kitchen freezer. The meals are each labeled with a post card message and prayer on the front and cooking instruction on the back of the card. The idea is that any member of St. Paul’s may take a meal and deliver it to someone who could use it. Some examples would be during an illness or death, welcoming a new baby home, enduring some hardship, etc. Thanks to the use of a Thrivent Action Team card, we have been able to provide this service to our community. Please let Katie know if you have any questions.
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Our worship services are live broadcast on YouTube! Just subscribe to our YouTube Channel by going to www.youtube.com and searching for St Paul Lutheran Church, Springfield, MN, or simply scan the QR Code with your smartphone. Be sure to subscribe so you will be notified when we go live!



St. Paul’s next blood drive will be
Wednesday, April 28th from
8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Go redcrossblood.org to schedule your appt.
Lunch provided for all donors and volunteers!



I need a few volunteers to help work at the blood drive.

Lent Suppers and Services

Wednesday, March 5th - April 9th

-- Meals Served 5:00-6:00 pm

-- Confirmation 5:30-6:00 pm

-- Service at 6:30 pm

No Confirmation on Ash Wednesday,
March 5th.

Sign up and menu for the meals is posted in the fellowship hall.

Please pray for...Kurt Glaeseman, Jerome Kettner, Doug Rositzke, Dale Peterson; all those serving in the military, at home and abroad: Jesse Kettner, Cylee Graff, Shane Clemon, Ethan Langseth, Emily Wendt, and Tabor Gluth.

Prayer Chain –If you have a prayer concern you would like passed along, 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.

March 2025

* Indicates Choir Singing.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 9:00 Worship 10:00 Coffee Talk 10:00 Sunday School 10:30 Ch. 8 Broadcast	3 6:30 pm Parish Ed Meeting	4 7:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast	5 Ash Wednesday 10:00 Ch. 8 Broadcast 5-6 pm Lenten Meal 5:30-6 Confirmation *6:30 Worship	6	7 Office Closed	1 8
9 9:00 Worship—Sunday School Kids sing 10:00 Coffee Talk 10:00 Sunday School 10:30 Ch. 8 Broadcast	10 6:30 pm Bible Study	11 10:00 am Worship at SJLH 7:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast	12 10:00 Ch. 8 Broadcast 5-6 pm Lenten Meal 5:30-6 Confirmation 6:30 Worship 7:15 Choir 7:45 Council Meeting	13	14 Office Closed	15
16 9:00 Worship 10:00 Coffee Talk 10:00 Sunday School 10:30 Ch. 8 Broadcast	17	18 7:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast	19 10:00 Ch. 8 Broadcast 5-6 pm Lenten Meal 5:30-6 Confirmation 6:30 Worship 7:15 Choir	20	21 Office Closed	22
23 9:00 Worship 10:00 Coffee Talk 10:00 Sunday School 10:30 Ch. 8 Broadcast	24 6:30 pm Bible Study	25 7:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast	26 10:00 Ch. 8 Broadcast 5-6 pm Lenten Meal 5:30-6 Confirmation 6:30 Worship 7:15 Choir	27	28 Office Closed	29
30 *9:00 Worship 10:00 Coffee Talk 10:00 Sunday School 10:30 Ch. 8 Broadcast	31					St. Paul Lutheran Church, 303 N Cass Ave, Springfield, MN 56087 Church Telephone: 507-723-5880 www.splcspringfield.org stpaul_lutheran@hotmail.com

* Indicates Choir Singing.

Worship Service Helpers

Date	Sound & Video	Projection	Reader	Acolyte	Usher	Organist
3/2	Tim Vogel	Jacobs Girls	Paul Muske	Ellie Jensen Abigail Shaw	Team 3	Jo Schwartz
*3/5 6:30 pm Ash Wed	Mueller Family	Mueller Family	Daniel Kettner	Molly Jacobs Cash Anderson	Team 4	Jo Schwartz
3/9	Groeber Boys	Groeber Boys	Jordan Pidde	Jonah Pidde Wyatt Dove	Team 1	Jeff Krueger
3/12 6:30 pm Wed.	Paul Muske Jonah Pidde	Jordan Pidde	Pastor Carl	Lydia Vogel Gavin Brown	Team 2	Jeff Krueger
3/16	Trevor Krebs	Mueller Family	Jo Muske	Bentley Wendt Reagan Plaster	Team 3	Jo Schwartz
3/19 6:30 pm Wed.	Dove Family	Dove Family	Pastor Carl	Lily Groebner Bobbi Jo Timm	Team 4	Jo Schwartz
3/23	Mueller Family	Mueller Family	Mel Vogel	Ali Trapp Leo Kral	Team 1	Jeff Krueger
3/26 6:30 pm Wed	Tim Vogel	Jacobs Girls	Pastor Carl	Adalyn Rudolph Abbygail Jeppesen	Team 2	Jeff Krueger
*3/30	Paul Muske Jonah Pidde	Jordan Pidde	Kurt Glaeseman	Rylyn Marz Blake Zihlke	Team 3	Jo Schwartz

Usher Teams

- 1 - Don Bloemke, John Marz, Jake Marz, Paul Meidl
- 2 - Doug Gatzlaff, Dave Bittler, Peter Heitzman
- 3 - Doug Schiller, Russell Rogotzke, Mark Buerkle, Jeremy Dove
- 4 - Tim Vogel, Scott Vogel, Bill Vogel

March Birthdays!

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- 3 - Sarah Riederer
 - 11 - Ethan Langseth
 - 12 - Lacey Groebner
 - 15 - Justin Asmus
 - 15 - Ali Trapp
 - 15 - Mike Rogotzke
 - 19 - McKenzie Jensen
 - 20 - Jo Muske
 - 21 - Keagan Streich
 - 25 - Katelynn Clemon
 - 25 - Brooke Kratz
 - 30 - Duane Nachreiner
 - 31 - Paul Muske

March Altar Guild
Jo Schwartz, Megan Hillesheim

March Anniversaries!

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- 25 - Gabe & Samantha Salonek - 2 years
 - 27 - Tim & Jill Vogel - 31 years
 - 28 - Dana & Shawna Jacobs - 16 years

Order your Easter Flowers Soon!

We have a wide assortment of Easter flowers that we can order this year! **Orders must be placed by Wednesday, March 12th!** Checks made out to St. Paul Lutheran Church.

Easter Lily \$17

Tulip pot \$12

Daffodil \$14

Begonia \$17

Cyclamen \$17

Hyacinth (pink or blue) \$14

Geranium Regal \$17

Hydrangea (pink or blue) \$29

6" Mums (lavender, white or yellow) \$18

Kalanchoe (yellow, hot pink, pink, orange) \$16

8" bulb garden (hyacinth, daffodils, tulips, and muscari) \$26

2025 Summer Bible Camp opportunities at Ingham Okoboji Bible Camp!

St. Paul Lutheran Church is happy to announce that we will again help cover the cost of Summer Bible Camp at Ingham Okoboji! Parish Ed and St. Paul's Spiritual Growth Fund will cover $\frac{3}{4}$ of the **EARLY BIRD** price for each camper. They will cover the full cost of the Camp in a Day. **EARLY BIRD pricing ends on February 28th**, so register today!

New this year--Families attending bible camp will be required to host a Lenten meal.

Several families can go together with preparing and serving a meal. The free will donations from the meal will help fund the campers. The dates for the Lenten Meals are March 12, 19, 26, April 2, 9. Please email Katie asap with the date you plan on hosting, who is helping you, and the meal you plan to serve.

You must pay Ingham Okoboji for the registration and cost of the camp and St. Paul Lutheran will reimburse you the $\frac{3}{4}$ cost. You must provide the church office with proof of registration with the date registered. Brochures are located at the entrance to the sanctuary, or you can check dates and register online at www.okoboji.org/register

More information was emailed out to families.

Community Treasures in Springfield

Hours are Monday 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.; Tuesday and Thursday 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.; and Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Donations will be accepted during business hours.

Ingham Okoboji Adult Camp Opportunities

Spring Crafting Retreat: May 2-4, 2025

Set aside some time just for you to do what makes you happy. Fill up your car with all the materials and tools you need and come to camp for a weekend of creativity, relaxation and spiritual growth. Also enjoy delicious food, soothing massages and great people as you unwind from your busy life and have some ME time! Bring a friend along. They may have a totally different project than you. That's okay. You can do your own thing right along side each other. Through out the weekend there will be several times set aside to gather together to encourage each other and grow in your faith.

Eldersversity: June 2-3, 2025

Did you go to Bible camp as a kid and wish you could have that experience again? Or maybe you didn't have the opportunity to go to Bible camp but would like to have that experience! Here is your chance!

Eldersversity camp is a special camp for those age 55 and older. At camp you will have the opportunity to participate in many different camp activities such as: singing, campfires, devotions and teaching times, pontoon ride, and much more!

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

Postmaster: Dated material
Please Deliver Promptly
Address Service Requested

Calendar Highlights - March 2025

5 - Ash Wednesday

All Wednesday's in March-Lenten meals
and Worship

Phone: 507-723-5880

Fax: 507-723-8712

Office Hours

Pastor Carl Billings

Parish Coordinator: Katie Mueller
Monday-Thursday 8:00 am-noon
Email: stpaul_lutheran@hotmail.com

Housekeeping: Mary Jo Simonson

Maintenance: Al Groebner

Financial Secretary: Anita Jensen
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 Schedule:

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:00 a.m. Sunday School (September-May)

10:00 a.m. Coffee Talk



Springfield Area Food Shelf hours
Tuesday 5:00pm – 7:00pm
Thursday 9:30am – 11:30am
625 N Jackson Ave - Springfield, MN 56087
(Springfield Clinic Lower Level)
507-723-3663 (FOOD)

We are on the Web!
www.splcspringfield.org