

# MAY

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Another class of Confirmation students is being confirmed on April 29! Part of what we study during Confirmation is what God does with sinners: specifically how God keeps promises though God's people are unfaithful.

What is a promise? It is a declaration or assurance that one will do a particular thing or that a particular thing will happen. When the Lord makes a promise, we can trust in that promise. The bible illustrates for us God's faithfulness.

One of the most famous biblical stories of promise regards Abram (Abraham) and Sarai (Sarah). In Genesis 12, Abram first receives this great promise from God:

*Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.*

And Abram, in obedience, goes to the land of Canaan. The Lord tells him, "To your offspring I will give this land." So Abram is given a promise of land, but told that he himself will never receive it. It is a promise for his offspring, but he will never gain possession of it himself. Abram As chief priest of the family, Abram builds an altar in worship to God.

But then we read that there is a famine in the land, so Abram and Sarai travel to Egypt. Abram is frightened the Egyptians will kill him to take his beautiful wife, and so he passes Sarai off as his sister. As a result, Pharaoh decides to take Sarai as his wife (unknowingly breaking the 6<sup>th</sup> commandment), and the mother of the promised nation is placed in jeopardy. In response to Abram's deceit, the Lord afflicts Pharaoh's house with plagues and Pharaoh realizes that his misfortune is due to Sarai. Pharaoh confronts Abram regarding his lie, and then sends him on his way with his wife, Lot, and their possessions.

Abram heads north and he and Lot separate as they have been blessed with livestock too numerous for the land to support them both. And again the Lord appears to Abram in Genesis 13:14-17, and promises land and offspring. Abram again builds an altar and they worship the Lord.

When the Lord appears to Abram in a vision and Abram confronts him regarding the promise of offspring, as none have yet been born to Sarai. The Lord assures Abram that his descendants will be numerous like the stars, and Abram "believed the Lord and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness."

Sarai grows antsy as she is unable to conceive and so she takes matters into her own hands by giving her slave-girl, Hagar, to Abram saying, "You see that the Lord has prevented me from bearing children; go in to my slave-girl; it may be that I shall obtain children by her." Abram does as Sarai directs him to do, and then real trouble begins when Hagar conceives and bears Ishmael. The triangle between the two women and Abram eventually ends in Hagar and Ishmael both being turned out from the family into the wilderness. This is the start of the fighting between the Jews and the Arabs.

When Abram is 99 years old, the Lord appears and renews his promise to Abram regarding numerous descendants and the land. The Lord gives circumcision to Abram as a sign of the promise. The Lord changes Abram's name to Abraham and Sarai's name to Sarah, and promises that Sarah, who is ninety, will bear a son. Abraham falls on his face in laughter at the prospect that he and his elderly wife having a son at this advanced age. But the Lord assures him that Isaac will be borne by Sarah, and God's covenant will be made with Isaac, not Ishmael.

Again the Lord appears to Abraham just as three men by the oaks of Mamre in Genesis 18. One of the men tells Abraham that Sarah shall have a son in due season. This time it is the aged Sarah who laughs in disbelief.

After interceding with the Lord for the sake of Sodom and Gomorrah, Abraham again passes off his wife Sarah, the mother of the promised son Isaac, as his sister to save his own life in Gerar. King Abimelech takes beautiful Sarah, who is ninety, but the Lord appears to him in a dream warning of the coming curse, "You are about to die because of the woman whom you have taken; for she is a married woman." The next morning Abimelech questions Abraham, "What were you thinking of, that you did this thing?" before sending them both on their way with gifts of sheep, oxen, slaves, and silver – gifts of blessing despite Abraham's deceit.

The long awaited Isaac, promised child, is finally born when Abraham and Sara are 100 and 91 years old, respectively. God was faithful to his promise, though Abraham and Sarah were unfaithful. Yet despite human unfaithfulness it is through Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob that the true promised offspring of the Lord was to be born, the one through whom all the families of the earth, will be blessed: the Savior, Jesus Christ.

And so we too are a people who have received from God in baptism a promise which we do not see with our eyes. That promise which comes to us through Abraham that all nations shall be blessed will be affirmed to our five confirmands on Sunday, April 29. Abraham's promised offspring, Jesus, came into the world and died for us, that we may be blessed with the forgiveness of sin, everlasting life, and salvation. Christ Jesus, in his death, has overcome the world already for us. Believe this promise that it may be reckoned to you as righteousness, the righteousness of Christ which is given to you as the gift of faith.

Each confirmation class, bible study, and worship service is designed to renew us in this promise – over and over again! Come, receive the promise and be renewed in your faith!

In Christian Love,

Pr. Tricia Mattson

## St. Paul Lutheran Church ~ Church Council Meeting, April 18, 2018, 7:30pm

Present: Jordan Pidde, Russell Rogotzke, Jill Vogel, Ed Meidl, Shawna Jacobs, Dawn Marz, Craig Valentin, Pastor Tricia, Matt Sargent, David Bittler, Dan Longsdorf, Jan Kratz, Kathy Pederson

Also Present: Katie Mueller, Parish Coordinator and Anita Jensen, Financial Secretary

Call to order by Jordan Pidde at 7:30pm

Devotion – Pastor Tricia-prayer.

M/S/P-Secretary's Report

M/S/P- Financial Report

Building and Grounds

Concerns with parking lot. Potentially filling cracks in the lot could eliminate the water seepage into the tunnel. Ed is going to get a couple of quotes for dealing with cracks and potentially seal coating if needed.

Church downspouts (Beginning of April) still waiting. Ed will follow up.

Concerns with ramps and the cracks and lifting due to frost. Ed has been asked to have Salonek's to evaluate and offer solutions.

Parish Education Report –

VBS June 24-28<sup>th</sup>, 5:15-8:15, Theme is Splash Mountain. Looking for volunteers to be leaders and helpers.

Serving cakes for Senior Sunday and Last day of Sunday School.

We have 12 seniors.

Looking for a potluck for congregation.

Pastor's Report-

### **Action Items:**

Policy Manual requirements for New Members: special coffee talk, picture, work group, etc. Pastor asked to consider a potluck, May 6<sup>th</sup> following service. Reminder to take photos of the event and new members.

M/S/P to not have 2<sup>nd</sup> service on May 6<sup>th</sup> to celebrate New Member Sunday.

Pastor was asked by neighbor to use churches Wi-Fi. Council responded no, there are other free public Wi-Fi services available.

M/S/P to update wedding policy.

### **Visitation**

Visited homebound, assisted care, nursing home, and hospitalized members

Contacting members to visit with executive board members and I re: ministry of the church

### **• Worship**

o Led worship at SJLH and Downtown Estates

o Led Lenten Wednesday worship and Holy Week worship on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday

o Presided at the funeral and burial of Marv Wendland

### **o Confirmation**

o We are now reviewing what we have learned for the year and preparing for the final test

o Met with 8<sup>th</sup> grade confirmands to discuss the writing of their Faith Statements on 4/4

o Ran through the Affirmation of Baptism Service and had 8<sup>th</sup> grade Confirmands try on robes 4/17

### **o Luther League**

o Attended the LL April meeting and led prayer.

### **o Parish Education**

o Continuing to lead weekly bible study Mondays at the Maples and Tuesdays at church

o Conducted premarital counseling

o Attended Parish Ed meeting 4/2 and VBS planning meeting on 3/18

o Holding Member Classes on Tuesday nights at 7:00 p.m.

o **Community**

o Attended the Groebner’s 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary party on 4/7

o Enjoyed potato peeling with parishioners on 4/9

Hosted at the German Supper on 4/11

Enjoyed lunches with two more of our Sunday school students at their schools

• **Continuing Education Update**

o Meeting with local pastors for weekly text study

Working on my Doctor of Ministry degree through St Paul Lutheran Seminary

**OLD BUSINESS**

\*Active/Voting Member List – Executive Committee. Finding several numbers are not good.

\*Church Insurance Clarification-all is currently United Prairie Insurance. Anita will be asking for insurance quotes much earlier so that council will have time to research and make decisions.

\*Property Sale – Jordan will follow up regarding paperwork and legal fees.

\*Policy Book Cemetery Update-Policy committee needs to review and update.

\*ALICE Training– couple of options: PowerPoint presentation or do PowerPoint presentation and drill. Pastor is asked to get thoughts and opinions of area ministries. Further discuss.

\*Scholarship Committee Report-Luther College Scholarship

\*Emmaus Ministries-Letter will be sent to discontinue services.

\*Reclaim Hymnals- adjustment was made to sale prices due to type of hymnal sold: soft cover verses hard cover. Hymnals sold to Pastor Mark: 60 @ \$3.50 (\$210) plus \$17.45 shipping for a total of \$227.45, payment in transit.

\*Food For the Poor visiting on May 20<sup>th</sup> (Pastor gone). Looking for car and hotel arrangements.

**NEW BUSINESS**

\*Summer Worship-

M/S/P To begin summer service Wednesdays, May 30<sup>th</sup> thru August 15<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.

\*Mission Sponsorship Committee Recommendations-needing to meet.

\*New Member Sunday, May 6 – Potluck to begin at 11am, no 2<sup>nd</sup> service, Sunday School invited.

\*M/S/P To hold Auction on Aug 22<sup>nd</sup>, time TDB.

\*M/S/P motion to adjourn.

\*Lord’s Prayer

Shawna Jacobs

Church Council Secretary

<b><u>2018 Church Council</u></b>		
Jordan Pidde - Chair	Kathy Pederson	Jan Kratz
Ed Meidl - Vice Chair	Dawn Marz	Russell Rogotzke
Shawna Jacobs - Secretary	Jill Vogel	Dan Longsdorf
Craig Valentin - Treasurer	Matt Sargent	Dave Bittler

.....  
 : 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, use one of the yellow in-  
 : formation cards in the church pews, call or email the church office at 507-723-5880 or  
 : stpaul\_lutheran@hotmail.com. We appreciate you keeping us updated!  
 : .....

Memorials Given From 3/23/18 to 04/22/18

<b>In Memory:</b>	<b>Given by:</b>	<b>Designated for:</b>
Brenda Gluth	Jeff & Stacey Weisensel	Good Shepherd Scholarship Fund
	Ed & Carol Meidl	Good Shepherd Scholarship Fund
Marvin Wendland	Jeff & Stacey Weisensel	Good Shepherd Scholarship Fund
	Moe & Shirley Weber	St. Paul Lutheran Church
	Marvin Wendland Family	St. Paul Lutheran Church
	Ken & Sharon Renner	St. Paul Lutheran Church
	Darold & Sharon Walker	St. Paul Lutheran Church
	Tim & Jill Vogel	St. Paul Lutheran Church
	Marvin Wendland Family	St. Paul Memorial Account
Dean	Connie Knutson	St. Paul Memorial Account
Merle Schueler	Larry & Ruthie Potter	St. Paul Lutheran Church

**Budget Recap & Attendance Year-To-Date (01/01/18 to 04/24/18)**

Given to Budget	\$51,514.12	Operating Income	\$57,514.12
Memorial Loan	\$6,000.00	Operating Exp.	\$53,931.41
Tot. Operating Funds	\$57,514.12	Deficit	(\$3,582.71)
Budget	\$59,954.07		
Deficit	(\$2,439.95)		

German Supper - April 2018		Expenses:	Jim's Market: \$457.88
Income:	Ticket Sales at the door: \$2,363		Lang's:
	Ticket Sales advanced: \$3,413		Advertising:
	Extra Food Sold: \$289		A.H. Hermel: \$502.48
	Total Income: \$6,065		Total Expenses to date: \$960.36

Donations Given to Offset Cost of Supplies:	\$360	Net Profit As of 4/24/18:	
Total Expenses after donations:	\$600.36		\$5,464.64

**Attendance Worship Services**

Sunday, April 1 - 6:30am - 99 & 9am - 132	Sunday, April 8 - 9am - 73 & 11am - 17
Sunday, April 15 - Cancelled due to Blizzard	Sunday, April 22 - 9am - 83 & 11am - 17

***Please pray for...*** Finnegan Ryan (Nancy Renner's Grandson), Jeremy Burns (US Navy, Shawna Jacobs' brother), Mike Rogotzke, Merlyn Peterson, Mary Sternberg, Pr. Darrell Pedersen; Amanda Havemeier, 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.

**Beyond Our Walls**

\*St. John Lutheran Home Auxiliary 2018 membership dues are \$3 and can be given to Jan Severson or turned into the church office in an envelope marked Auxiliary Dues.

\*Friday, May 4th, 11am-1pm, Salad Luncheon at Zion Lutheran Church, Springfield. Take outs available.

\*Tuesday, May 8th, 7:30 p.m. is Guest Night at Our Savior's Lutheran in Lambertton. Guest speaker Rev. Steven King of Sola Publishing will speak on "Confidence in sharing our faith". Refreshments will be served.

\*Sunday, May 20th we will have Pastor James Stoltenberg from Food For the Poor here to speak about a ministry providing direct relief to the poor throughout Latin American and the Caribbean.

# May 2018

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 6:00 Bible Study 7:00 Member Class 7:00 Ch. 8 Broadcast	2 7:00 Choir Rehearsal  Pastor Tricia Vacation Day	3	4 Office Closed	5
6 <b>New Member Sunday</b> 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School Coffee Talk 10:35 Ch. 8 Broadcast 11:00 <b>Welcome Potluck</b>	7 3:16 Bible Study @ The Maples 7:30 Parish Ed Mtg.	8 10-3 Pastor's Text Study 6:00 Bible Study 7:00 Ch. 8 Broadcast	9 3:15-4:30 Elementary Youth Group 7:00 Choir Rehearsal 7:30 Church Council	10 1:15 Staff Meeting	11 Office Closed	12
13 <b>Baccalaureate Sunday</b> 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School Coffee Talk 10:35 Ch. 8 Broadcast 11:00 Worship	14 3:16 Bible Study @ The Maples	15 7:00 Ch. 8 Broadcast  Pastor Tricia on vacation, May 15-24	16 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	17 11:00 Staff Meeting	18 Office Closed	19
20 9:00 Worship 10:00 Coffee Talk 10:35 Ch. 8 Broadcast 11:00 Worship  Pastor Tricia on vacation, May 15-24	21	22 7:00 Ch. 8 Broadcast	23	24	25 Office Closed	26
27 9:00 Worship 10:00 Coffee Talk 10:35 Ch. 8 Broadcast	28 3:16 Bible Study @ The Maples 2:00 Downtown Estates	29 6:00 Bible Study 7:00 Ch. 8 Broadcast	30 7:00 p.m. Worship on Wednesday (WoW)	31 11:00 Staff Meeting		

## 9:00 am Worship Service

Date	Sound & Video	Reader	Acolyte	Greeters	Usher
5/6	Alex Quesenberry	Connie Knutson	Kyler Zihlke Zach Timm	Mike & Crissy Rogotzke	Team 2
5/13	Shane Clemon	Daniel Kettner	Daniel Groebner Jonathan Longsdorf	Ken & Sharon Renner	Team 3
5/20	Tim Vogel	Jo Muske	Kaden Pyzick Brendon Buerkle	Kevin & Jo Schwartz	Team 4
5/27	Bob Kratz	Mel Vogel	Kyle Quesenberry MaCoy Krick	Tim & Jill Vogel	Team 1

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

Contemporary Worship will be on April 29th, May 13th & 20th. There will be no Contemporary Worship on May 6th due to the Welcome potluck. We will resume in the fall.



### May Altar Guild

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

### Delivering bulletins in May

3 - Jill Vogel  
10 - Tricia Mattson  
17 - Ruthie Potter  
24 - Xandar & Carter Asmus  
31 - Leona Schottle



## *May Birthdays!*

1 – Angie Krebs	13 – LaCole Weisensel
1 - Jason Lorenzen	14 – Jerrine Kettner
1 – Melanie Vogel	16 – Kelsey Moret
1 – Marie Weinberger	17 – Tyler Larson
2 – Dan Longsdorf	20 – Kelly Jandura
2 – Marcia Schiller	20 – Nickolas Kratz
3 – Bonnie Brand	21 – Arthur Kettner
4 – Megan Groebner	25 – Kylie Moret
4 – Katie DeBower	25 – Ryan Stark
6 – Darla Knutson	26 – Jeremy Brown
6 – Carla Moret	26 – Bryan Buerkle
7 – Alexandra Solmonson	27 – Conner Jandura
9 – Liam Allen	29 – Olivia Fenger
9 – Alexis Clemon	29 – Mae Meyer
9 - Ellen Kral	29 – Daniel Veenstra
10 – Layne Vanderwerf	30 – Ed Meidl
12 – Carter Asmus	31 – Amanda Jensen

## *May Anniversaries!*

11 – Rick & Angie Meine  
14 – Jason & Nikki Nachreiner  
15 – Roger & Kelly Sargent  
17 - Dan & Laurie Longsdorf  
19 - Brad & Kari Haugo  
22 – Dennis & Sharon Sehr  
23 – Steve & Susan Hendrickson  
24 – Cody & Lacey Groebner  
31 – Gary & Karen Jensen  
31 – Jordan & Jeanette Pidde

**Deadlines: Sunday Bulletin:** Wednesday by 10 am. **Epistle:** 20th of each month. Please call or email Katie at the church office with additions or changes for the bulletins or Epis-

We have a You Tube Channel were you can watch our 9:00 a.m. Worship Service on your device, desktop, or laptop! Search for “St. Paul Lutheran Church, Springfield, MN” in YouTube! You can also subscribe to our channel to be notified when new services have been uploaded!





Luther League will not meet over the summer! Enjoy your time off and see you in the Fall!  
Thank you for all of your support this past year!

**Elementary Youth Group ~ Wednesday, May 9 from 3:15-4:30!**

**This is our last Youth Group Meeting for the school year!**

Thank you to the children who have participated in Elementary Youth Group! We have enjoyed having you and learning with you! See you in the Fall! Katie Mueller & Shawna Jacobs.

St. Paul's will be hosting VBS this summer! It will be held June 24-28th from 5:15-8:15 p.m. each evening, with a program on the 28th. Dinner will be served each night. The theme is *Splash Canyon: God's Promise on Life's Wild Ride!*

*Strap on your life jacket and get ready for a rip-roaring river ride! Life is full of thrills and spills, and we may not know what's around the bend, but God does! At Splash Canyon VBS, kids discover that on life's wild ride, Jesus is always by our side (based on 2 Corinthians 1:20).*

Watch for more information coming soon! Volunteers will be needed! Please let Crissy Rogotzke, Jeff Krueger, or Katie know if you can help!

\*The Board of Parish Education is seeking 2 new board members. Please talk to Jeff Krueger or Crissy Rogotzke if you are able to fill one of these positions. Thank you.

\*New Member Sunday will be on Sunday, May 6th. Everyone is invited to a welcoming reception and potluck brunch beginning at 11 am that day! Please bring a dish to pass!

\*Baccalaureate Sunday will be Sunday, May 13th. St. Paul Lutheran's graduating seniors will be joining us for a special worship service and Coffee Talk in their honor.

\*Graduating Seniors and College Students, don't forget to apply for the Good Shepherd Scholarship.

**Applications must be received by July 15th.** For a copy of the Eligibility Rules and Application go to [www.splcspringfield.org/Scholarships](http://www.splcspringfield.org/Scholarships) Or email Katie in the office at [stpaul\\_lutheran@hotmail.com](mailto:stpaul_lutheran@hotmail.com)

\*Our Summer Worship Services will be on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. starting on Wednesday, May 30th. That service will be every Wednesday thru August 15th.

\*We are looking for 5 more roasters to be donated to St. Paul's for our German Supper's. Typically roasters have been borrowed from others, but for convenience we would like to own the roasters and keep them here at church. If you are willing to donate a roaster or make a monetary donation please contact the church office. Thank you to those who have already donated!

\*SANTA'S BURGER BLAST, supporting the community's Nativity Pageant, will be held on Friday, June 1 in Jim's Market Parking Lot. SANTA burgers, chips, cookie and beverage will be served from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. that day. Root Beer floats will also be available during the day.

\*St. Paul's needs to furnish some volunteers to help with the event.

-One worker for the 11:00 shift

-Two workers for the 4:30 shift

-Two workers for the Root Beer Float stand from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

If interested, please contact St. Paul's SANTA representatives Jeff Krueger or Ed Meidl or Katie in the church office.

Open House Graduation  
Reception honoring  
Justin Haugo  
Sunday, May 20th from 1-4 p.m.  
Springfield American Legion



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

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Calendar Highlights - May 2018  
6 - New Member Sunday, 11am Potluck  
9 - Elementary Youth Group  
13 - Baccalaureate Sunday, Mother's Day,  
Last Day of Sunday School  
30 - Worship on Wednesday, 7 p.m.

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

**Phone: 507-723-5880**  
**Fax: 507-723-8712**

**Office Hours**

Pastor: Tricia Mattson  
Monday 9-noon  
Wednesday 1-4  
Thursday 10-11; 1-3  
Or by appointment  
[pastortriciamattson@gmail.com](mailto:pastortriciamattson@gmail.com)

Parish Coordinator: Katie Mueller  
Summer Hours  
Monday-Thursday 8:00 am-3:00 pm  
Email: [stpaul\\_lutheran@hotmail.com](mailto:stpaul_lutheran@hotmail.com)

Housekeeper: Lisa Prechel

Maintenance: Ed Meidl

Financial Secretary: Anita Jensen

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.

**Worship:**

**SUNDAY**

Worship at 9:00 a.m. & 11 a.m.

Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

Coffee Talk at 10:00 a.m.

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