

ST. PAUL NEWS

Monona, IA 52159

May 2025

Office 563-539-2230

Kitchen/School 563-539-2050

*Pastor:
Erika Lenth*

*Parish Administrator:
Danielle Friedlein*

*President:
Crystal Thurn*

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From Pastor Erika

Where has the time gone? April lasted for what seemed like only a week and it is May already. This month we celebrate Cradle Roll graduation as well as high school graduation. I am sure all of these parents and loved ones of graduates are wondering “where has the time gone?” I have been in Monona and with this congregation for almost 12 years now and I have had the privilege of watching the graduates grow and mature. I remember when these graduates were just a little bit older than my girls! One of my favorite verses about time, Ecclesiastes 3:1, “for everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven.” This verse reminds us who is in control- God and that the time and seasons we have with each other are gifts. If you go on to read this passage from Ecclesiastes, it talks about there is a time to live and a time to die, a time to dance and a time to refrain from dancing, etc. That there is a time and place for everything, that God did not just create us for work but that we live and love in praise of God by living life to the fullest. The month of May holds endings but also new beginnings for many people. Graduation, the end of the school year, but a new phase of life is beginning. For many this is just another month of time passing but for all of us God has given us hope in the passing of time, “Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.” (Luke 21:33) God in Jesus Christ is forever, everything on earth is temporary so the bad grade, not making the team, our kids growing up, and politics are all temporary. Because Jesus conquered the grave, all have hope of eternal life with God. This life is not the end, it is just the beginning. Alleluia Christ is risen! He is risen indeed, alleluia!

In Christ's peace,
Pastor Erika

CRADLE ROLL RECOGNITION & NURSERY ROOM GRADUATION SUNDAY, MAY 4TH AT THE 9:00 AM WORSHIP SERVICE

During worship our Nursery Room will share some special music and the Nursery Room Graduates will be recognized. We will also recognize all newly baptized children from the past year and their parents. Fellowship with light refreshments to follow. This will also be the last day of Sunday School for the year.

Kindergarten Graduates

Maysen Doeppke
Trayven Kraus
Harlow Martins
Maryn Martins
Blair Radloff

Hudson Radloff
Theodore Tayek
Oscar Torkelson
Tyson Wagner



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2025 GRADUATES!

*Addison Buchheit ~ Ashlyn Henkes ~ Benjamin Krambeer
Avery Lamborn ~ Aiden Schoulte ~ Carter Stoddard
Isabella Torkelson ~ Austin Trappe*

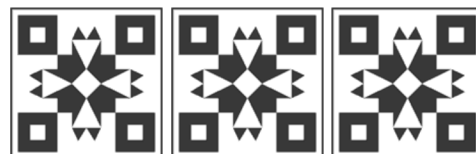
Senior Recognition ~ Sunday, May 11th at Worship

St. Paul Lutheran has a long tradition of honoring our confirmed senior graduates at a worship service during the month of May. A special gift created by the women of the congregation will be presented to them on behalf of all the members of St. Paul.



Baccalaureate ~ Wednesday May 14th

The MFL MarMac Interchurch Council will be honoring the graduating seniors at a Baccalaureate service on Monday, May 14th at 7:00 pm at the Giard Methodist Church. All parishioners are invited to join our seniors for this special prayer service. This is our way to honor and support our young adults who have reached this milestone in their lives.



MAY

Mission Action:

Personal Care Items—
Shampoo, deodorant, etc.

Bible Study:

Receiving the Spirit's Flame:
Spiritual Gifts in the Life of the
Church.



MAY CALENDAR

May 3rd

LWR Truck, Decorah
7:30 -10:30 am

May 4th

Cradle Roll Recognition

May 7th

9:15 am Bible Study

May 11th

Senior Recognition



*All are Welcome to come to
any Bible Study*

Studies are held the 1st
Wednesday of the month
at 9:15 a.m.
in the church library.

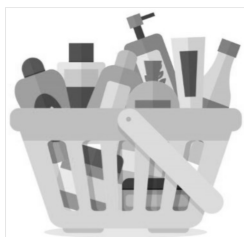
Monthly Mission Action Program

The Monthly Mission Action Emphasis is a program St. Paul WELCA has been active with. Each month a different item is specified and that is the item we collect that month. All items will be used in our Lutheran World Relief kits or given to Shepherd of the Hills

Everyone is invited and encouraged to participate!

*Place your gifts in the basket on the table
in the entryway by the church office.
Watch the St. Paul News each month for the
item.

Thank you!



May Item
Personal Care Items
Shampoo, Deodorant etc.

SAVE YOUR STAMPS!

WELCA is collecting used postage stamps. Tear off the stamps and place in the container at church and WELCA will trim them. There must be a 1/4-1/3 inch boarder of paper around the stamp. Small 1/2 cent through current postal rate are accepted. Seasonal holiday or any special stamps are great! These are donated to the Alliance Stamp Ministry to raise money to provide Sunday School curriculum to Spanish speaking countries.

THANK YOU to Jim & Linette Langhus for delivering quilts and kits to the Lutheran World Relief Truck in Decorah.

Scholarships For EWALU

WELCA will donate \$30 to any St. Paul Sunday School student who would like to attend Summer Camp @ EWALU. If interested, contact the church office.

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

St. Paul Lutheran Church

Council Meeting April 7, 2025

(The April Minutes are printed but pending approval at the May 14th Council Meeting)

Present: Crystal Thurn, Pastor Erika Lenth, Danielle Fridelein, Lois Garms, Ashley Blietz-Camp, Justin Birdnow, Kevin Brainard, Barbara Horns, Beth Foels, and Shawn Thurn. **Absent:** Steve Johnson, Rein Kregel, Andy Meyer, Tiffany Torkelson, and Craig Watson

Meeting called to order by council President, Crystal Thurn, at 6:32 pm.
Devotions were led by Crystal Thurn. Next month is Tiffany Torkelson.

Minutes of Council Meeting: Minutes from the March 10th council meeting were reviewed. Justin Birdnow motioned to approve the minutes as printed. Kevin Brainard seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report & Bills: Danielle shared that we spent \$438.91 more than we brought in for March. Memorials received totaled \$3,667.47, with \$20 being In Loving Memory memorials. March expenses included parsonage deck supplies and worship supplies. Our telephone listing has been updated and should save us \$577.00 over the next year. Our insurance policy carrier is requiring us to have an electrical survey completed. Kregel Electric will perform for the cost of \$275.00. Kevin Brainard motioned to approve Kregel Electric to perform the survey. Barbara Horns seconded. Motion carried. Our insurance deductibles have increased from \$5,000 to \$10,000 for building and water damage and \$50,000 for hail damage. Our annual premium has also increased from \$9,980.00 to \$14,466.00 which is still a savings since switching from Grinnell Mutual. Ashley Blietz-Camp motioned to approve the treasurer's report. Lois Garms seconded. Motion carried.

Correspondence: A letter was received from Tony Goodrich. SOTH is asking for donations to help offset the cost of unexpectedly replacing their furnace. Lois Garms motioned that we take special offering through May then discuss the total donation amount further. Justin Birdnow seconded. Motion carried

Pastor's Report: Pastor shared that Lent has been busy but going well. Acolytes have completed training for Holy week and there will be a baptism on Palm Sunday and another in June. Upcoming events for this month besides Easter is the last night of confirmation class and ConFest.

Education & Youth: Next meeting is April 14th at 6:00 pm.

Fellowship & Evangelism: Met on Sunday, April 6th. Senior recognition is coming up.

Mission & Social Ministry: Met on March 23rd. Progressive supper is set for May 4th at 4:00 pm. We are asking for donations to the Clayton County Food Shelf this year.

Property & Grounds: Kevin has started work on the parsonage deck, the railing and skirting is left but the project will be completed soon. The wall repair will take place mid May. The anticipated date for the parsonage door was last updated to May 5th. Shawn shared he has another plan for repair of the office air conditioning before moving forward with replacement.

Stewardship & Finance: No report

Council Minutes, continued . . .

Worship & Music: Met on March 11th. Upcoming events are: Senior recognition for 8 students is May 11th, Pentecost is June 8th, and Lamborn/Giltzer wedding is October 25th. Summer services have been discussed but not set. Looking for congregation members interested in reinstating the prayer chain. Also discussed is changing the setting for worship more often moving forward.

Interchurch Council: Met on March 31st. Bachelorette will be held at Giard Methodist on May 14th. Goodwill truck is May 10th and is sponsored by St. John's Luana/Farmersburg. Monona United Methodist will be hosting VBS this summer. Next meeting is set for June 30th.

Old Business: Signage for Monona display at Gateway park: there is an issue with the printing of our logo. We will have them try to include the ELCA logo instead. Custodial position: the posting will be altered to only include the general cleaning duties listed. Going forward, we will ask for volunteers to help complete any special projects.

New Business: The Sunday School department has looked into purchasing four Smart TVs that will be used in Sunday School and the library. Each 55" TV will cost approximately \$228.00 and costs of wall/cart mounts range from \$25-60 with the proceeds coming from Easter Grass donations and Sunday School memorial fund. Lois Garms motioned to proceed purchasing four TVs and mounts. Kevin Brainard seconded. Motion carried.

Next Meeting will be Monday, May 14th at 6:00 pm

Ashley Blietz-Camp motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 pm. Kevin Brainard seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted by Ashley Blietz-Camp

Special Offering for SOTH in May

Shepherd of the Hills has recently had to replace the heating and cooling systems for the building, which was an unplanned expense. Zion Lutheran has donated \$500 to SOTH to help with the cost and is inviting other congregations to consider donating toward building expenses. St. Paul will take up a special collection each Sunday in May for the SOTH Building & Maintenance Fund. *Donations can be placed in the basket in the back of the sanctuary and any checks should have SOTH Building & Maintenance Fund written on the memo line.*

Saturday May 10th ~ 8 am to 11am

**WE'RE ON A
ROLL**



Our Truck Will Be Accepting Donations At

East Parking Lot Monona Comm. Ctr.

**MAY
10th**

Shepherd of the Hills Ministries

NEWSLETTER – MAY 2025



Our furnace has been installed along with the beginning part of the central air. Thank goodness because we went with no heat for 11 days and the coldest it got was it was 43 degrees, The unit will be installed in May, right before the heat kicks in. Thank you to all who have sent donations. We have not met our goal as of yet, but with your help I believe we will get there very soon.

Clothing Center Updates:

Remember that we would love to take all of your donations but there are some items that is impossible to keep. Really worn clothing, stained, holes, non-working zippers/snaps and rusty utensils will not be kept. Appointments are still required so I can staff accordingly. Thank you for thinking of us when it comes to donations. These items are greatly needed in our area and bringing it here, they generally stay in the area.

We are in need of bedding sheets (all sizes), bath towels, pots and pans, baking dishes and children's clothing. Thank you all for your continued support and great donations!!

We are glad to announce that we have our spring and summer items out in the thrift store. There is a nice selection of short sleeve shirts and shorts. I have been very blessed with volunteers that are helping me with the clothing center. The clothing store is cleaned and organized for your shopping experiences. Again, most items are only \$1.00

Shepherd Conference News:

Confest will be held at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Monona on
April 30th from 5:45-7:45pm.

This event is open to all conference churches with confirmation students and chaperones. There will be fun activities, worship and lunch served. All churches are encouraged to attend along with Pastors.

Ascension Day Service will be May 29th at 5:30 pm. It is located at the Ceres Church on Hwy 52 between Garnavillo and Guttenberg. If you have not attended, you should because the church is very unique. Potluck at St. Peter in Garnavillo to follow.

The **Operating Fund** pays the utilities, insurance on the building, supplies, salaries and Lawn/Snow Care.

The **Crisis Fund** is used to help families with emergency rent or utilities and our sponsored events throughout the year

Please utilize the **MEMO LINE** on your check to specify Crisis or Operating Fund!

Please indicate what church you are from as well to provide better bookkeeping.

IMPORTANT EVENTS/DATES:

Ascension Day Service- May 29th, 2025

NE Iowa Synod Assembly June 6-7, 2025

***Any event may be subject to change**

Shepherd of the Hills:

Heather Hageman
100 W. Hill Street, PO Box 36,
St. Olaf, IA 52072

Telephone: 563-783-2409

Fax: 563-783-2428

E-mail: shephill@neitel.net

**Business Hours: Monday-Friday
9am-12pm and 1pm-4 pm**

Youth/Sunday School News



On Sunday, March 30th, 1st-4th grade students participated in a reenactment of The Last Supper. Thank you to Beth Henkes for organizing and hosting!



On Maundy Thursday ten 2nd graders received their First Communion. Congratulations to (back) Bryce Camp, Mitchell Burns, Waverly Wagner, Addyson Kregel, Ava Hendricks, (front) Beckett Jones, Brayton Schutte, Aria Koenig, Quebella Cahoon and Sloan Hansel.

Luther League Mother's Day Cinnamon Roll Fundraiser

Contact a Luther League Member or pick up a form in the back of the church to pre-order.

1 Giant Roll: \$5.00

6 Regular Size Rolls: \$10.00

**Pre-orders/payment due:
Wednesday, May 7th**

**Cinnamon rolls will be ready for pick-up:
2:00 p.m. on Saturday May 10th or
8:00-10:30 a.m. on Sunday May 11th**

There will be some extra rolls available for purchase after church on Sunday, May 11th, but please pre-order to guarantee availability.

Contact Jonna Schutte with any questions at 563-537-0092





In Loving Memory...

Of Bob & Florence Evans
By Tryg & Karan Mathison
Gloria Rainer

Of Dorothy Nuehring and Loved Ones
By Marlyn Nuehring and Family

Of Loved Ones
By David & Lorna Jones
Mary Ann Koehn

Of L'Dean Henkes
Dwain Henkes & Family
and Loved Ones
By Arleta Henkes and Family

Of Eddie & Inez Langhus and
Eldean & Ivy Wilke
By Jim & Linette Langhus

Of Loved Ones
By Tyler & Ashley Camp
Brodyn, Bryce & Layton

Of Loved Ones
By Don & Karen Martindale and Family

Of Robert & Allen Ball
By Betty Ball

Of Loved Ones
By Barbara Horns and Family

Of Jason & Arleen Ferguson
By Marlyn & Patty Buerger and
Ron & Chris Ferguson

Of Kim Trappe & John Tesar
By Sharon Tesar

Of Brent, Jamie, Kevin Jr. and Loved Ones
By Kevin & Penny Brainard

Of Jerry Brown
By Celia Brown

Of Loved Ones
By Andy & Heidi Meyer and Family

Of Loved Ones
By Richard & Teresa Sass

Of Loved Ones
By Mary Jo & Craig Sexton

Of Loved Ones
By Barb & Dave Kalkwarf

Of Gene Baade
By Marilyn Baade

Of Loved Ones
By Judy Walter and Family

Of Jim Walter
By Judy Walter, Lisa, Lori, Lary and Families

Of Loved Ones
By Tim & Diane Fisk and Family

Of Lyle Johannsen and Loved Ones
By Marion Johannsen and Family

Of Roger Halvorson
By Connie Halvorson, Tracey, Rogeta,
Jay, Lisa and Families

MAY BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES



12	Ania Kwilinski	22	Dreyah Henkels	30	Laina Kraus
14	Lydia Wagner	25	Hannah Friedlein		
22	Lukas Friedlein	29	Sydney Bissell		

OFFICIAL ACTS IN APRIL

Baptism: April 13, 2025

Beckett Alexander Andreae

Parents: Melita & Tyler Andreae

Sponsors: Alicia & Matt Cahoon
Kyle & Paige Andreae



MAY GOLDEN BIRTHDAYS

May 3	Robert Saacke
May 10	Steve Ford
May 14	Connie Halvorson
May 22	Marion Johannsen
May 18	Doug Bachman
May 26	Roger Nelson
May 29	Joyce Saacke
May 29	Jim Tayek

SUMMER OUTDOOR WORSHIP DATES

**Bring a lawn chair and join us for Worship
Service on the church lawn.**

June 22nd

July 6th

August 3rd

September 7th

MAY GOLDEN ANNIVERSARYS

May 9	Fred & Bonnie Heins
May 23	Bob & Joyce Saacke
May 29	Ron & Diane Mueller
May 30	Allan & Mary Smith

ST PAUL EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH DATA

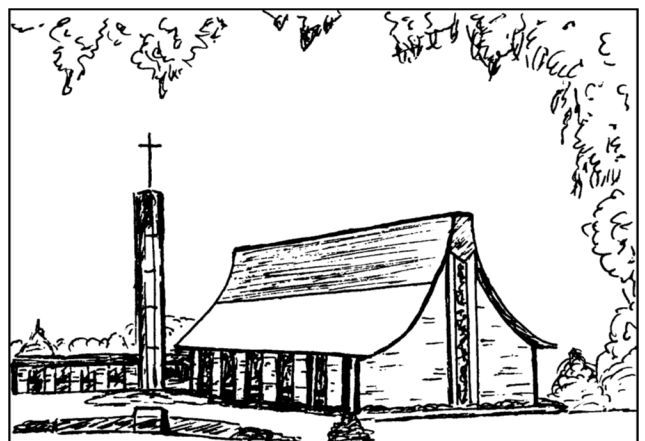
Total 420

Total Family Units 174

Average Sunday Attendance for 2023
94 (In Person) 45 (Virtual)

Average Sunday Attendance for 2024
105 (In Person) 40 (Virtual)

Average Attendance for 2025 through April 20th
109 (In Person) 54 (Virtual)



March Financials



***Giving	Cash/Check
March 2	\$2,892.00
March 9	\$4,962.25
March 16	\$2,924.00
March 23	\$2,511.01
March 30	\$4,071.70
ILM Memorials	\$20.00
**Total Simply Giving for March	\$4,010.00

*** The chart above shows weekly income from the offering plate, money that has been sent in, Simply Giving, as well as fundraisers (Coffee Hour, Fall Dinner, etc.) which include: Current Fund Offering and Designated Funds (Mission Offering and Memorial Funds, such as the Boiler and Solar Funds).

** Simply Giving Donations are reported once a month due to posting issues at the beginning/end of month.

* The receipts below reflect money that is available for the operating budget AFTER deducting designated giving.

General Fund	March Actual	March Budget	March YTD Actual	March YTD Budget
*Receipts	\$17,555.53		\$58,444.53	
Disbursements	\$17,994.44	\$18,171.87	\$48,485.67	\$54,515.61

Can't make it to church in person?

Find our services on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/@stpaulmononaia>

Also, check out our Facebook Page to find out what's going on at St. Paul!

<https://www.facebook.com/stpaulmononaia/>

Items to be included in the June St. Paul News need to be turned into the office by May 20th.

St. Paul Parish Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Friday 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Outside of Office Hours, please feel free to leave a voicemail at the church phone number (539-2230) or leave a note in Danielle's mailbox located next to the library door.

*Would you like to receive the St. Paul News via email?
Please let us know by emailing the church office.
stpauluth@neitel.net*

MAY 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 LWR Truck Decorah
4 Cradle Roll/NR Grad. 9:00 Worship/ Eucharist 10:00 Fellowship 10:15 Sunday School 4:00 Progressive Dinner 6:00 Troop 138	5	6 6:15 Worship & Music	7 9:15 am Bible Study	8	9	10 Goodwill Truck
11 Mother's Day Senior Recognition 8:00 Choir 9:00 Worship/ Eucharist 10:00 Fellowship 6:00 Troop 138	12	13 6:15 Worship & Music Meeting	14 6:00 pm Council 7:00 Baccalaureate Giard Methodist	15	16	17
18 8:00 Men's Choir 9:00 Worship/ Eucharist 6:00 Troop 138	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 Noisy Can 8:00 Bells 9:00 Worship/Eucharist	26 Memorial Day OFFICE CLOSED	27	28	29	30	31

St. Paul Evangelical
Lutheran Church

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P O Box 1968
Monona, IA 52159-0561

Phone: 563-539-2230
Email: stpaluth@neitel.net

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MONONA, IOWA

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



COUNCIL

May 4 Sunday 9:00 am	Steve Johnson Andy Meyer
May 11 Sunday 9:00 am	Crystal Thurn Kevin Brainard
May 18 Sunday 9:00 am	Beth Foels Ashley Beitz-Camp
May 25 Sunday 9:00 am	Crystal Thurn Andy Meyer Lois Garms

LECTORS

May 4	Dave Kalkwarf
May 11	Heidi Landt
May 18	Barb Kalkwarf
May 25	Crystal Thurn

USHERS

May 4	Lorna Jones Mary Ann Koehn
May 11	Kenny & Linda Staff
May 18	Lindsay Krambeer Bailey Engen
May 25	Mary Jo Sexton Barb Tieskoetter

MAY SCHEDULES

Come & Worship

ACOLYTES

Schedule not available at
the time of printing

FLOWER ASSISTANTS

May 4	Lorna Jones
May 11	Beth Henkes
May 18	Teresa Sass
May 25	Dyane Schutte

ALTAR GUILD

May 4	Linette Langhus
May 11	Crystal Thurn
May 18	Kris Christen
May 25	Lorna Jones *Check Robes

FELLOWSHIP

May 4	<i>Cradle Roll</i> Education & Youth Sunday School Staff
May 11	<i>Senior Recognition</i> Fellowship & Evangelism
May 18	No Fellowship
May 25	No Fellowship