



ST. PAUL NEWS

Monona, IA 52159

July 2025

Office 563-539-2230

Kitchen/School 563-539-2050

*Pastor:
Erika Lenth*

*Parish Administrator:
Danielle Friedlein*

*President:
Crystal Thurn*

Inside this issue:

Pastor Erika	1
Game/Movie Night	2
Back to School	
WELCA	3
Council Minutes	4
Council Minutes cont.	5
Shepherd of the Hills	6
Birthdays & Anniversaries	7
Financial Report	8
Calendar	9
Schedules	10

From Pastor Erika

Summer is a time for conferences and camp. Many of us get to do these activities this summer or some time in our lives have done them. This is a busy summer in the life of our congregation and the ELCA. In June was the Synod Assembly in Cedar Falls that Celia Brown, Wren Feuerhelm & I attended. In July, I will take 7th & 8th graders to Camp EWALU. At the end of July, I and delegates from all over the United States and Puerto Rico will gather in Phoenix, AZ for the ELCA Churchwide Assembly where a new presiding bishop and secretary will be elected. These are just some of the conferences I know about and you all have your own for your work or activities you belong to. Why do we do these activities? Jesus said, 'Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age - houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions - and in the age to come eternal life.' (Mark 10:29-30) Jesus wants his followers to leave everything to follow him. Going to conferences or camps are a very small way to leave everything but I still believe it is a way to follow Jesus. Jesus wants us to leave everything to get out of our comfort zone and see the world God made and what life is like outside of our context, how other people live, what needs there are and how others express their faith in the Triune God. I am so glad that camp is a requirement of confirmation. I never had the opportunity to go to camp but many of my classmates in seminary were counselors and they have stories that will last a lifetime. All of the students I have taken to camp since I've been here still tell stories of their time at camp. Their time at camp is a week that is set apart to be with God, to be in relationship with people, to be changed. Camp, the Youth Gatherings, WELCA Gatherings, Churchwide Assembly and Synod Assembly are opportunities to strengthen your faith, see the world through a new lens and be immersed in God.

Camps & conferences aren't all work there is a lot of fun that happens too and challenging and encouraging yourself and others. Not all of you will have the opportunity to go to camp or one of these conferences but you are still very much a part of making this happen for others through your donations, attending meals sponsored by Confirmation students and Luther League, donating quilts to the auctions at camps to keep their ministry going, praying for those who go, asking questions, and looking at pictures. I am grateful for all your support with these ministries, they are so important to the faith lives of the Body of Christ. Thanks be to God for these opportunities and for you dear brothers and sisters in Christ who continue to support these ministries!

In Christ's peace,
Pastor Erika

GAME & MOVIE NIGHT

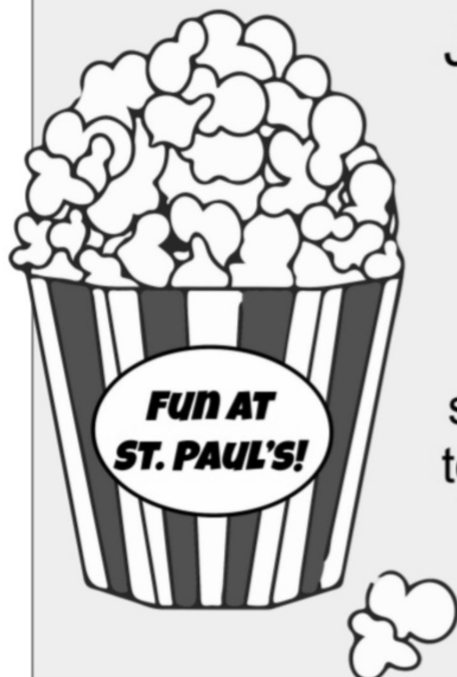
Join us for a family-friendly evening of fun and fellowship!

SUNDAY, JULY 20

GAMES STARTING AT 4:00 PM

Light meal with BBQs/hotdogs provided starting at 5:00 pm. Please bring a side/chips to share. Animated children's movie to start at 5:30 pm indoors.

Popcorn will be provided!



DONATIONS FOR SOTH SCHOOL BUS APPRECIATED



BACK TO SCHOOL 4 KIDS!

St. Paul will have the School Bus out to collect supplies from July 20th - Aug. 3rd



It is that time of year again, where we ask congregations and the public to be mindful of our Back to School event that supports the children in our area. Through physical donations of backpacks/school supplies and monetary donations we can fill backpacks for many children.

Let's come together and FILL THOSE BACKPACKS!

This years wish list:

Mechanical Pencils, Pink Erasers, Dry Erase Markers, Pencil Boxes, Pencil Cases, Index Cards, Kleenex, 1" Binders, College Rule and Wide Rule Spiral Single Subject Notebooks, College Rule Composition Books, Wide Rule Composition Books, College Rule Filler Paper, Wide Rule Filler Paper, Thin Colored Markers, Classic Wide Markers, Blunt Youth Scissors, TI 30x Scientific Calculators, Adult Sized Backpacks (17" or bigger)

Cash donations are appreciated and may be sent to: Shepherd of the Hills Ministry PO Box 36, St. Olaf, IA 52072. All cash donations will be used to purchase items not donated. Please remember to indicate Back to School on the memo line **THANK YOU & GOD BLESS!!!**



JULY

Mission Action:

School Supplies

Bible Study:

Where two or more are gathered:
Flourishing in relationships
Session 3: Relationships that push
us to grow

Focus Verses:

Esther 4: 12-14



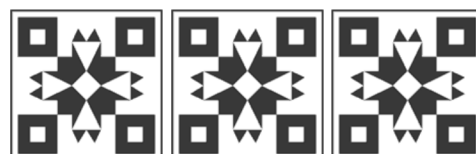
JULY CALENDAR

July 2nd

No WELCA Bible Study

July 16th

10:30 am Bible Study - Pr. Erika
WELCA Salad Luncheon
Everyone Welcome



*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.

WELCA Mission

To Mobilize Women to act
boldly on their Faith in
Jesus Christ

WELCA SALAD LUNCHEON & BIBLE STUDY

Wednesday July 16th at 10:30 a.m.

St. Paul Fellowship Hall

Bible Study with Pr. Erika:

Flourishing in Relationships:

Relationships that push us to grow



BRING A SALAD,
BRING A FRIEND,
ALL ARE WELCOME!

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!

July Item:



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

St. Paul Lutheran Church

Council Meeting June 11, 2025

(The June Minutes are printed but pending approval at the July 16th Council Meeting)

Present: Crystal Thurn, Pastor Erika Lenth, Danielle Friedlein, Steve Johnson, Justin Birdnow, Kevin Brainard, Lois Garms, Barbara Horns, Rein Kregel, Beth Foels

Absent: Ashley Bietz-Camp, Tiffany Torkelson, Andy Meyer, Craig Watson

Meeting called to order by council Vice President, Kevin Brainard at 6 p.m. Crystal arrived and took over about 6:15 p.m.

Devotions were led by Kevin Brainard. Next month is Andy Meyer.

Minutes of Council Meeting: Minutes from the May 14th council meeting were reviewed. Motion by Justin Birdnow, Barbara Horns seconded, to approve the minutes as printed. Motion carried.

Treasurer Reports & Bills: Danielle shared both attendance and offering were down in May. We spent \$7,602.07 more than we brought in however, \$3,000.00 was for the retaining wall project and \$390.00 for Synod Assembly fees. Memorial Fund brought in \$919.01 with \$60.00 being In Loving Memory memorials. Expenses from Memorial accounts included \$1,057.98 from SS school fund for purchase of Tv's to be used in Sunday School, \$12.83 for Stained glass window supplies, \$1,540.00 for remaining Confirmation Camp fees, and \$4,375.00 from Bell Choir, Choir Funds and Committee Choice for down payment on balcony chair lift. \$3,000.00 was moved from Current Fund Holding to pay for the retaining wall project. This is the start of the renewed Church Insurance policy with Church Mutual. We paid the umbrella and worker's comp in full for the year along with our regular monthly premium for a total of \$1,220.29. Monthly Marco bill for copier increased by \$8.56 because of Tariff and inflationary costs.

Special offering during the month of May for Shepard of The Hills Building Fund Totaled \$4,703.00.

Erin Schultz started as our new custodian on June 1st.

Kristen Zabel is one of our new Sunday School teachers and would like to paint some murals in the Nursery Dept. Motion made by Justin Birdnow to allow Kristen to pain in the Nursery Room area, seconded by Steve Johnson. Motion carried.

Looking ahead, the office will be closed Thursday June 19th. The week of July 28th Pastor will be in AZ for a Church-wide Assembly. That is also Clayton County Fair week. Danielle is a 4H leader so the office will bel closed on Tuesday and Thursday. She will be in the office at normal hours on Monday and Wednesday. Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report by Steve Johnson, 2nd by Justin Birdnow. Motion carried.

Correspondence: None

Pastor's Report: Pastor reported 306 miles totaling \$214.20 for May. Barbara Horns motioned to approve mileage. Steve Johnson seconded. Motion carried. She attended the Baccalaureate, visited Gail Bissell and performed two Baptisms. There will be two more next month and possibly two more in the near future. She, Celia Brown and Wren Fuerhelm attended the NEIA Synod Assembly in Cedar Falls.

Education and Youth: The 7th and 8th graders will help plant trees later this fall. We have teachers for all age groups. There will be a lot of changes and moving around downstairs utilizing more class rooms.

Fellowship & Evangelism: New signs with church logo will go up out on the business billboard by Gateway Park this week. New signs will also be put up on the west entrance road and on the east road coming into town. Next meeting later this month.

Mission & Social Ministry: On Sunday July 20th @ 4 p.m. will be our movie night with a light Potluck Supper beforehand.

Council Minutes, continued . . .

Property & Grounds: Met Sunday June 8th. Went over the project list of items being worked on. Parsonage door complete, Parsonage Deck complete, and Retaining Wall complete. Stripping and sealing of red tile floors will begin about July 1st. Talked about resurfacing the parking lot as the next main project to continue to work on. Motioned by Steve Johnson to move forward with exploring resurfacing the parking lot and to bring it to the Congregation in September, seconded by Rein Kregel. Motion Carried. We hope to get all bids finalized in the coming months. Tentatively September 21st will be our Congregation Meeting with notice of this meeting being presented on Sept 7th and 14th. We will also put it into our Church Newsletter.

Stewardship & Finance: We will have a meeting before next month's council meeting to go over the 1st half financials and give a report at the council meeting.

Worship and Music: None

Interchurch Council: Meeting scheduled for June 30th.

Old Business: Signage should be up by this weekend
 Parsonage door is complete
 Electrical inspection and repairs were completed by Kregel Electric.
 Chair lift to balcony will be installed this summer.

New Business: Sunday school space/basement tour
 We toured the basement to see what we could do with some of the "stuff" that is down there in various areas in order to open up a couple of more rooms to accommodate our growing Sunday School classes. It was decided to have several key people be contacted and help decide what to do with some of it. At this time our thoughts are to have an auction. Rein Kregel volunteered to lead the auction. Items that we're keeping will be consolidated into rooms or closets in different areas.

Office air conditioner. We received a bid from Wirkler Bros. to replace the condenser in the unit for the offices of \$3,300.00. We'll talk with a couple of people to see if they can get the old unit down and the new unit up on the roof. Motion made by Lois Garms seconded by Steve Johnson to replace the condenser. Motion carried.

Next Meeting will be Wednesday July 16th, 6:00 p.m..

Steve Johnson motioned to adjourn at 7:07pm. Barbara Horns seconded.
 Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Kevin Brainard

SUMMER OUTDOOR WORSHIP

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

July 6th
August 3rd
September 7th

ST. PAUL PRAYER CHAIN

The St. Paul Prayer Chain has been
 reactivated. If you have a prayer request,
 you can contact either Danielle at the
 church office 563-539-2230,
 or Crystal Thurn 563-880-0843

Shepherd of the Hills Ministries

NEWSLETTER – JULY 2025



*We are gearing up for our Back to School event. There are so many new families using our services that we are going to need a lot of help to make this a success. Our event is scheduled for August 6. We will be collecting donations from **July 1-August 4**. If you would rather send a monetary donation, please send them to the office at the address below.*

A list of needed school supplies is attached. Back packs (17 in or larger) are always needed, especially if they have characters on them. Thank you for supporting our youth and investing in their future to go Back to School!

Clothing Center Updates:

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!!

All donations need to be scheduled so I can staff accordingly. This allows us the ability to go through the donations faster and keep the inventory rotating.

Please remember if your donations are not in good condition to where you would not use them, please do not pass them on to us. We gladly accept "in season" items as long as they are in good working condition. Please make sure clothing is free from stains, tares, rips, broken zippers and missing buttons. Please follow us on Facebook or our website to get the latest news on the clothing center and our Saturday sales.

Shepherd Conference News:

Please help us congratulate the following pastors on the anniversary of their ordinations...

June Anniversary's: (Sorry I forgot to include these last month)

Pastor Erika Lenth, St. Paul, Monona 06/01/2013

Pastor Margaret Yackel-Juleen, One in Faith Perishes 06/14/2009

Pastor Ron Roberts, East Clermont, Clermont 06/23/1996

July Anniversaries:

Pastor Gary Hatcher, St. Paul, Garnavillo/ First, McGregor 07/24/1977

Pastor Jeremy Wolfe, St. John Luana & Farmersburg 07/28/2024

Pastor Tyler Hoey, St. Peter, Garnavillo/Peace, Clayton 07/24/2021

Pastor David Tielbar, One in Faith Parishes, 07/15/2015

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:

***Dollar General Fundraiser
July 12 10am-6pm
All area Dollar Generals***

***Back to School Event
August 6th from 9am-5pm
(Referral required to participate)***

****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**

JULY BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES

2 Ayden Barat Klimesh	10 Marshall Burns	18 Rayanne Marmann	27 Brady Welsh
Carson McAllan	12 Harlan Mitchell	20 Dylan Kurth	28 Dawson Bouzek
3 Haven Martins	13 Kira Kurth	22 Aiden Schoulte	29 Jaden Wolff
6 Kashton Decker	15 Natalie Kregel	24 Briella Schutte	Weston Kregel
7 Madeline Burns	17 Brooklyn Headlee	24 Arlo Mitchell	Olivia Blietz
8 Evangeline Tayek	Marcus Stoddard	26 Raela Kraus	



OFFICIAL ACTS IN JUNE

Baptism: June 1, 2025

Atticus Lee Kwilinski

Parents: Tori & Mason Kwilinski

Sponsors: Spenser & Melanie Bilden

Baptism: June 1, 2025

Miles Patrick Hertrampf

Parents: Brandon & Katelyn Hertrampf

Sponsors: Melissa Wedo

Mason Hertrampf



Funeral: June 5, 2025

Gale Marie Bissell, Age 90

JULY GOLDEN BIRTHDAYS

July 7	Dolly Klingeman
July 19	Betty Ball
July 23	Judy Walter
July 23	MaryAnn Fuelling
July 23	Ron Mueller
July 27	Diane Mueller
July 30	Kenny Staff

**NO JULY
GOLDEN ANNIVERSARIES**

ST PAUL EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH DATA

Total 420

Total Family Units 174

Average Sunday Attendance for 2023

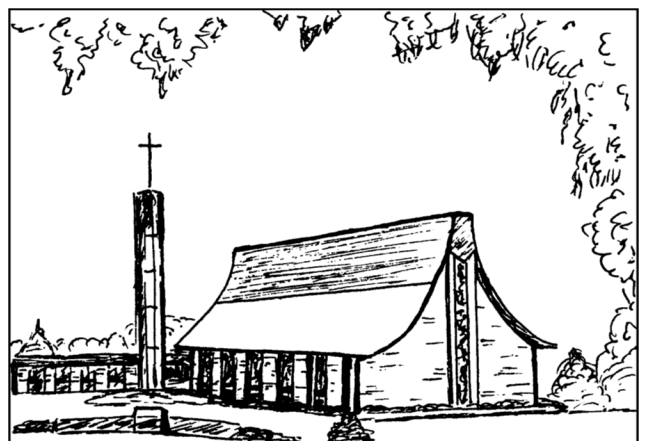
94 (In Person) 45 (Virtual)

Average Sunday Attendance for 2024

105 (In Person) 40 (Virtual)

Average Attendance for 2025 through June 15

105 (In Person) 48 (Virtual)



May Financials



***Giving	Cash/Check
May 4	\$2,551.44
May 11	\$4,430.16
May 18	\$1,815.25
May 25	\$1,933.29
ILM Memorials	\$60.00
**Total Simply Giving for May	\$3,784.00

*** 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	May Actual	May Budget	May YTD Actual	May YTD Budget
*Receipts	\$10,765.50		\$86,744.52	
Disbursements	\$18,367.67	\$18,171.87	\$82,323.06	\$90,859.35

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 August St. Paul News need to be turned into the office by July 16th.

St. Paul Parish Office Summer Hours

Monday - Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Friday

Office Closed, but Pastor Erika available by appointment

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.*

JULY 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4 <i>Independence Day</i>	5
6 <i>Outdoor Worship</i> 9:00 Worship/ Eucharist <i>*Outdoor, weather permitting</i>	7	8 Confirmation	9 Camp	10	11	12 <i>Stangeland Baptism</i>
13 9:00 Worship/ Eucharist	14	15 6:15 Worship & Music	16 10:30 am Bible Study WELCA Soup Luncheon 6:00 pm Council	17	18	19
20 9:00 Worship/ Eucharist 4:00 pm Game & Movie Night	21	22	23 9 am-4 pm VBS @ Monona UMC	24	25	26
27 <i>Noisy Can</i> 9:00 Worship/Eucharist	28	29 Office Closed Pr. Erika at	30 Church-wide	31 Office Closed Assembly in AZ		

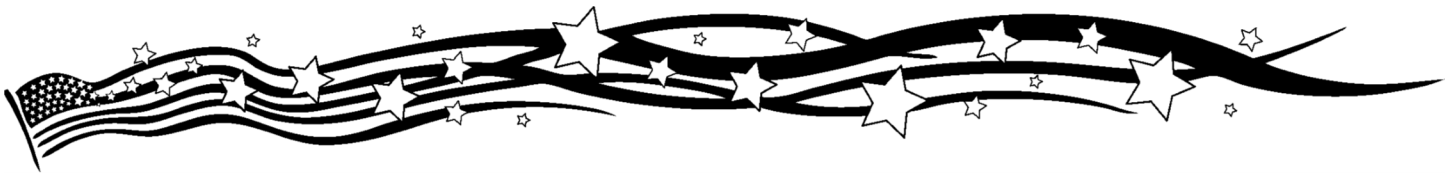
**St. Paul Evangelical
Lutheran Church**

401 South Egbert Street
P O Box 1968
Monona, IA 52159-0561

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

NON-PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 6
MONONA, IOWA

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



COUNCIL

July 6 (<i>Outdoor</i>) Sunday 9:00 am	Lois Garms Steve Johnson
July 13 Sunday 9:00 am	Justin Birdnow Kevin Brainard
July 20 Sunday 9:00 am	Crystal Thurn Andy Meyer
July 27 Sunday 9:00 am	Rein Kregel Lois Garms Ashley Blietz-Camp

USHERS

July 6	Outdoor Worship
July 13	Kevin & Penny Brainard
July 20	Lindsay Krambeer Bailey Engen
July 27	Barb Tieskoetter Mary Jo Sexton

JULY SCHEDULES

Come & Worship

ACOLYTES

July 6: <i>Outdoor</i>	Avery Lamborn Jaxon Lamborn Gage Paulus
July 13:	Avery Lamborn Kase Paulus Grace Palas
July 20:	Austin Trappe Clayton Henkes Brodyn Blietz
July 27:	Addison Buchheit Kyler Nuehring Kashton Decker

FLOWER ASSISTANTS

July 6	Outdoor Worship
July 13	Lois Garms
July 20	Pam Malanaphy
July 27	Lorna Jones

ALTAR GUILD

July 6	Crystal Thurn
July 13	Kris Christen
July 20	Lorna Jones
July 27	Barb Kalkwarf *check robes

LECTORS

July 6	Sara Wagner
July 13	Rein Kregel
July 20	Melissa Haberichter
July 27	Crystal Thurn