



St. Paul Lutheran Church ELCA

1701 Sixteenth Avenue
Sterling, Illinois 61081-1543
Phone (815) 625-3069

Email: stpaulsterling@comcast.net
Website: www.stpaulsterling.com

MAY 2023

"We are an Easter people and Alleluia is our hymn of praise!"
- St. Augustine of Hippo



We celebrate the resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ for 50 days in the season of Easter. Even if the eggs and decorations have been put away, the spirit of Easter leads us through the entire month of May. As we sing Alleluias, we praise God that we no longer have to fear sin or death. Instead, the promise of resurrection encourages us to live out God's love and Christ's way of new life. We are called to live as "Easter People" who live out the promise of life and love by how we speak and act.

During the month of May we have many opportunities to live as Easter people. St. Paul is getting ready to host the Let's Feed the Children Summer Lunch Program again this June-Aug. Over 21,000 meals will go in and out of our building to offer the gift of life through food. You can support the program in many ways: donate to the Children's offering, volunteer with packing and helping get the church ready, or donate individual pasta servings (Easy Mac, Chef Boyardee, Roman noodles, Chicken noodle soup). Our teenagers are also invited to live as Easter people through volunteering to pack Buddy Bags with the Tri-Church Youth Wednesday, May 3 from 7-8pm at Wesley Methodist Church.

How will you live as Easter people in your home and our community? Perhaps you share God's love with your teammates and even opponents on the soccer field or ball diamond. Maybe you take time this month to show gratitude to the women who have been role models or mothering figures to you. In praise of all that God has done, let us live as Easter people!

With resurrection hope,
Pastor Makayla

Join us For Worship

9:00 a.m. worship to praise God.

The Livestream can be accessed by clicking [HERE](#)



This past month we have prayed for the following: Dan Bartel, Stephanie Heflin, Diane Reed, Jim Brotheridge, Lori Dewey, Harold Julifs, John Ukena, Florence Pfundstein, and Berta Beyer.

Please contact Sue in the church office if you have a prayer request for the congregational prayer list.

Church Announcements

Wednesday Evening Bible Study

May 3 – 6:00 p.m.

May 17 – 6:00 p.m.



Coffee Fellowship

If you would like to sign-up to celebrate a special event, the sheet is on the kiosk in the Fellowship Hall. Coffee time begins at 10:00 a.m. during the Sunday school hour.



ALTAR FLOWERS

The sign up chart is on the wall by the church office. If you would like to order in memory of in honor of someone, sign-up and let Sue know if you will be ordering them yourself or if you would like her to order for you.

Northern IL Synod Assembly will be June 16-17 at Augustana College in Rock Island. We are looking for one more person to represent St. Paul as a voting member. Your registration and housing is provided. Please let Pastor or Sue know if you would like to serve. The deadline to register is May 15. Thank you in advance!



Northern Illinois Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



Our next quilting day will be Wednesday, May, 17. We were able to complete 14 quilts, bringing the number to 79 quilts completed.

Thanks for the fabric donations of clean, spot-free fabric to be used within our quilts. Donations can be put in the closet by the kitchen

and marked for quilting.

If you have questions contact Dawn Waite at 815-631-8142 or Debbie O'Brien, 815-441-0257.

Menz Group will meet at St. John's Lutheran Church in Sterling on **Monday, May 1 at 6:00 p.m.** This opportunity is open to all men. A hearty welcome and invitation is extended! Please contact Gerald Foskitt at 815-499-6566 with questions.



CLEO (Church Ladies Eating Out)

CLEO will meet at 6:00 p.m. at a designated restaurant. They will next on May 22 (a week early, due to Memorial Day), at Lisa's Brickhouse in Sterling. If you are unable to attend because of bad weather or personal reasons, please join us the next month. If you need a ride or have any questions, please contact Libby at 815-626-0764 or Judy Bartel at 815-751-6768. All are welcome!

St. Paul Year Budget Report

2023 Budget \$265,691(\$22,141 Monthly)

Totals through April 26, 2023

Budgeted Expenses	\$88,564
Offerings/Interest	\$62,495
Expenses	\$81,310



Stewardship – Hope in God, Not Your Bank Account

The only thing in all of creation that worries is a human being. Plants and animals don't worry. Only human beings act as if we don't have a heavenly Father. When you worry about your finances, you're basically saying, "I don't really think God will meet my needs." But God will, if you meet the condition.



As kids growing up we would all go to our parents and say, "I need some money". Not once as a kid did I ever wonder, "where is this money coming from, or where will they get it?" We never worried about it.

Worry is a warning light. Every time we worry about our finances, it's a warning that we doubt God loves us and will take care of us. We always get into trouble when we doubt God's love.

As long as you love anything more than God, that thing is going to be a source of anxiety. Only one thing was meant for the first place in your life and it's not your family. Anything you put first in your life besides God will create anxiety, because that thing can always be lost.

Your bank account is not your security, no matter how big it gets. The Bible says in 1 Timothy 6:17, "*Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.*"

Put your hope in God, because he will assume responsibility for your needs if you'll trust in him.

**Take a moment to pray and express your gratitude to God.
Give generously with a grateful heart!**



Please keep our home visitation members and friends in your thoughts and prayers. If you would the address for anyone listed here, please contact Sue in the church office.

Lori Dewey
Harold & Sandy Julifs
Cliff Miller
Burt Severson
Gene Strike

Katherine Janssen
Viola Koster
Florence Pfundstein
Gladys Stern
John Ukena

Scripture Readings for Worship at Home

(These devotional readings may not exactly match the readings at in-person or online worship)

May 2023	First reading	Psalm	Second reading	Gospel
Fifth Sunday of Easter May 7, 2023	<u>Acts</u> <u>7:55-60</u>	<u>Psalm 31:1-</u> <u>5, 15-16</u>	<u>1 Peter 2:2-</u> <u>10</u>	<u>John 14:1-14</u>
Sixth Sunday of Easter May 14, 2023	<u>Acts</u> <u>17:22-31</u>	<u>Psalm 66:8-</u> <u>20</u>	<u>1 Peter 3:13-</u> <u>22</u>	<u>John 14:15-</u> <u>21</u>
Seventh Sunday of Easter May 21, 2023	<u>Acts 1:6-</u> <u>14</u>	<u>Psalm 68:1-</u> <u>10, 32-35</u>	<u>1 Peter 4:12-</u> <u>14; 5:6-11</u>	<u>John 17:1-11</u>
Day of Pentecost May 28, 2023	<u>Acts 2:1-</u> <u>21</u>	<u>Psalm</u> <u>104:24-34,</u> <u>35b</u>	<u>1 Corinthians</u> <u>12:3b-13</u>	<u>John 20:19-</u> <u>23</u>



Mark your calendars and make plans to join is a special **Tri Church Worship** with Immanuel, St. John's & St. Paul at the **Centennial Park, Larson Shelter** in Rock Falls **on June 11 at 10:00 a.m.** A potluck & time of fellowship will follow. Watch for more info in your June Newsletter & bulletin announcements.

Our next **Tri Church Team Meeting is on Monday, May 22nd at 6:00 p.m.** at St. John's. Together we can accomplish ministry that we cannot do alone. What a gift it is to be a part of the Body of Christ together!

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES FOR OUR CHURCH MEMBERS

If you don't see your name on this list or there is a correction to be made, please let Sue know in the church office

- 3 Nicholas Engstrom
- 4 Lori Dewey
Carter O'Brien
- 5 Owen Pillars
- 6 Dan Bartel
- 7 Mary Ordean
Stephen Geiger
Jack Saathoff
- 8 Sandy Fritz
Paul Adams
Scott Wolber, Jr.
- 9 Gary Fields
Dennis Biester
- 10 Jennifer Page
- 13 Chrissy Zollinger
- 14 JoEllen Vandersee
- 15 Dawn Zeigler
- 16 Ron Hulteen
- 18 Mel Johnson
- 21 Eileen Wolber
- 22 Keller Arduini
- 28 Libby Schrader
- 30 Ava Beswick

Happy 17th Anniversary

May 27, 2006

Ryan & Valerie Petty



Easter Lily given in Honor of:

Lucille Beyer by Roberta Beyer

Easter Lilies given in Memory of:

Bob Woessner and Bob Wasmund by Julie Woessner

Dick, Harold, Hazel, Bob Cox by the Cox family

Susie Dir by Dan Dir

Heather Crofts by Khe & Jerry Crofts

Allan Beyer and Blanch Slifer by Roberta Beyer



Tulips given in Honor of:

Lucille Beyer by Roberta Beyer

Our grandparents by Pastor Makayla and Jacob Dahleen

Tulips given in memory of:

Bob Woessner and Bob Wasmund by Julie Woessner

Allan Beyer and Blanch Slifer by Roberta Beyer

Ruth & Don Stern by Donna & Dave Kendall and family, Bob & Judy Bartel and family

Phyllis Oelrichs and Melissa Wittbecker by Myra Oelrichs

Martin Edeus by Jen Pillars

Kenneth & Miriam Chubb, Dr. Carl & Minne Wiederanders by Verges & Noreen Aageson and family

Daffodils given in memory of:

Our parents by Ron & Janie Billings

Hyacinth given in honor of:

Lucille Beyer by Roberta Beyer

Hyacinths given in memory of:

Julie Renner by John Renner

Pearl Staples by JoAnn & Ruben Garcia

Dave and David Beck and George & Sylvia Day by Nancy Beck

Marcia Fields by Gary Fields

Allan Beyer and Blanch Slifer by Roberta Beyer

Teen Time!

**Sunday Mornings after worship 10am
Youth in grades 7-12 are invited to join
Pastor Makayla for conversation, Bible
Study, activities, fellowship and fun!**



UPCOMING EVENTS:

Tri Church Teen Time (6th - 12th graders) in May will be a service event of **packing buddy bags on Wednesday, May 3 from 7 - 8 p.m.** at the Wesley United Methodist Church (2200 16th Avenue). Please meet us at Wesley United Methodist. Come and serve with us!



6th-12th Graders: We have a great crew heading on our Abounding Love & Life Trip June 18-21! We will be spending a few days in Des Moines and Ankeny, IA experiencing God and sharing life together as we explore God's abounding love and life through worship, service, and adventure! The tentative schedule includes: worship, Bible study, group building, service, a day at Adventureland and more. The participants of this trip will help choose some of the activities.





Children's Offering

The children's offering for the month of May will support the United Way's Let's Feed Our Children. The free summer lunch program kicks off the first week of June at St Paul. Thank you for sharing in the ministry of giving and helping to feed our world.

Teen Time '23

Teen Time is at 10:00 a.m. after worship on Sundays. In addition we will have Tri- Church Teen Time activities throughout the year. **There will be some additions and changes to this schedule.** Please watch your email, the newsletter and the bulletin announcements for updates. *Italicized opportunities are additional items going on around the area.*



May

- 3** Tri-Church Buddy Bag packing
- 6** Tri Church Teen Time Fiesta
- 7** 10:00 a.m. Teen Time
- 14** 10:00 a.m. Mother's Day activity
- Last Teen Time for the year

Community Announcements



Mark Your Calendars for Relay For Life

Immanuel is inviting all members, friends and family to become members of the *Spirit of Immanuel* Relay For Life team at the 28th annual event to be held at Westwood Sports Complex in Sterling on Saturday, June 5 from 6:00-9:00 p.m.

Relay For Life is about celebrating survivors, honoring and remembering those lost to cancer, and Fighting Back against this cancer which is not fussy about who it attacks – male or female, younger or older, whatever nationality or heritage. For questions, contact Immanuel's Service Ministry Council members, Pam Shoffner or Kevin Arnold.

Registration of survivors to walk the first lap, receive a free Survivor T shirt, and a free box lunch after the opening lap and team members as well may register online at: www.relayforlife.org/saukvalleyil or call 1-800-ACS-2345.

Trinity Food Pantry Supporters:

The congregation of Trinity Methodist Church in Sterling has decided to close the church at the end of June, 2023.

The food pantry will be closing down at the end of May, 2023. Until then, they will continue to be open on Tuesday mornings (9:00-11:00) to help those in need of food. They anticipate using most of the food currently in stock with perhaps some limited purchase of food if needed, using the remaining balance of the pantry account. Any money remaining in the account at the end of May will be given to other similar ministries providing food assistance.

They thank us for our generous support of food supplies and monetary donations over the past months and years.

Pray for all the volunteers who have been helping at Trinity Food Pantry and ask that God will deliver us to another place of service.



Let's Feed Our Children program begins on May 31. They will once again be using our building to pack lunches and distribute them. A group of volunteers come in on Tuesday to pack all the lunches. On Wednesday, volunteers come in to pick

up the lunches and take them out into the community, and surrounding towns, to hand-out. It's quite the process to watch. Last year almost 22,000 free meals were handed out in Whiteside County.

Let's Feed to Children



INDIVIDUAL PASTA DRIVE

MOTHER'S DAY
SUNDAY, MAY 14TH

Help the United Way serving FREE meals for children in Whiteside County. Please donate individual servings of pasta (15,000+ servings will be needed this summer). The most popular choices are Easy Mac, Chef Boyardee style of pasta, ramen noodles, and Chicken noodle soup.

Donations may be accepted at your church on or at St Paul Lutheran Church, (1701 16th Ave, Sterling, IL 61081). Donation can be dropped off Monday, May 15th - Friday, May 19th from 9-4pm.

Questions? Contact United Way at 815.625.7973 or kolson@uwwhiteside.org



SPONSORED BY



United Way
of Whiteside County



We are so very thankful for your support of LOMC!
Your gift supports the land, the programs, the faith and the people
that visit.

Join with us on **TUESDAY, MAY 2** to support LOMC!

Our goal is to raise \$22,000.

We have a **\$4,750 matching gift** to help us reach our goal!
Give on Facebook (no fees), send in a check or give online.

[Give Online](#)

[Give on Facebook](#)

You can also mail your donation to:

LOMC

Illinois 2 Oregon, IL 61061-0239 USA

TELEPHONE PRAYER SUPPORT GROUP

We welcome your prayer requests and also your praise reports:

(Want to be a part of this? Call the church office.)

Pastor Makayla (815) 780-9401

Janie Billings

Judy Bartel

Greg Zeigler

James 5:16 *Pray one for another.*

DIRECTORY OF STAFF and CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

Pastor Makayla Dahleen

(815) 780-9401 – pastormakayla@stpaulsterling.com

Sue Dirks, Parish Secretary

(815) 535-3574 – sue@stpaulsterling.com



2023 Congregation Council

President – Jim Gorman

Vice President – Greg Zeigler

Treasurer – Chrissy Zollinger

Secretary – Jennifer Pillars

Christian Education/Youth

Jennifer Pillars ('24)

Stacey Avelar ('25)

Stewardship

Greg Zeigler ('25)

Lay Ministry & Worship

Chrissy Zollinger ('25)

Julie Woessner ('25)

Property & Management

Dan Bartel ('24)

Jim Gorman ('25)

Chad Arians ('25)

Social Outreach

Stacey Avelar ('25)

Jennifer Pillars ('24)

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH
1701 Sixteenth Ave.
STERLING, ILLINOIS 61081

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**– DATED MATERIAL –
PLEASE DO NOT HOLD**



LOVING – SERVING – SHARING

DIRECTORY OF STAFF

Office (815) 625-3069

Office Hours: Monday – Friday; 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Email: stpaulsterling@comcast.net

Website: www.stpaulsterling.com

Facebook: St. Paul Lutheran Church – Sterling, IL

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