

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 2024

"Spirit of the Living God, fall fresh on me. Break me, melt me, mold me, fill me. Spirit of the living God fall fresh on me!" – Spirit of the Living God song by Daniel Iverson.



In May we will be celebrating the church festival of Pentecost. We find the story in the book of Acts. The disciples are gathered and suddenly the Holy Spirit blows into the room, blazing with tongues of fire. The disciples understand the many different languages spoken and are sent out into the world. Their fear melts away and they emerge into the world with a fresh new call. Many of the people gathered are baptized and "they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers." (Acts 2:42).

In the spirit of Pentecost (pun intended 😊), we are called to live like these first disciples who share in teaching, fellowship, bread-breaking, and prayers. Even as Sunday School wraps up its formal teaching time this month, I invite you to consider how you can share in your faith and Bible stories at home. Seek out opportunities to gather with folks from church for a meal and fellowship through breaking bread. We can also share our daily bread with our neighbors through the Let's Feed the Children Summer Lunch Program. This year we are not hosting the lunch packing as the program has become too large for our space. We rejoice in its success and will continue to support this ministry through collecting individual pasta servings (Easy Mac, Chef Boyardee, Roman noodles, Chicken noodle soup) and monetary donations. For more information about how to volunteer, check out the ad later in the Newsletter.

We also have the opportunity for fellowship and bread-breaking through our LSSI Birthday Buddy Program with our Tri-Church partnership. On May 6, we will celebrate one of our neighbor's Birthdays at Partnership House. Join in the merriment through signing the big birthday card on Sunday May 5 or talk to Pastor, Greg Z, or Carolyn D to join in the cupcake and gift delivery on May 6.

May the Holy Spirit fall fresh on you this May as we live as devoted disciples!

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: Mary Summers, Dorothy Carr, Eric Brown, Michelle Klinger, Barb Lenn, Lori Dewey, Shirley Graftaas, Betty Steinke, Michael Harting, Bob Cornelsen, Larry Wahler, JoDell Cruz, Sandy & Harold Julifs, Lila Edeus, and Berta Beyer.

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

Church Announcements



Fellowship Hall Chair fundraiser

We have purchased enough chairs and then some to be able to fill all the tables in the Fellowship Hall. Thank you to all who have donated!

CLEO (Church Ladies Eating Out)

CLEO meet monthly at 5:30 p.m. (NOTE the time change!) at a designated restaurant. The May outing on Monday, May 20, (a week early because of Memorial Day) at Culver's in Rock Falls. 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 Judy Bartel at 815-751-6768. All are welcome!



Menz Group will meet at St. John's Lutheran Church in Sterling on Monday, May 6, at 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday Evening Bible Study

May 8 – 5:30 p.m.

May 22 – 5:30 p.m.



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

Dorothy Carr
Lila Edeus
Harold & Sandy Julifs
Burt Severson

Bob Cornilsen
Katherine Janssen
Viola Koster
Sandra Sweitzer

Lori Dewey
Cliff Miller
Dale Worley



St. Paul Year Budget Report

2024 Budget \$286,313 (\$23,859 Monthly)

Totals through April 30, 2022

Budgeted Expenses \$95,436
Offerings/Interest \$44,056
Expenses \$76,757



Lutheran World Relief

We will meet on Wednesday, May 15, from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Come and join us as we tie and pin the quilts. They are then sewn by Dawn Waite and packaged to be delivered at a later date. We have 67 quilts completed at this time.

Thank you for your donations of clean sheets, blankets and mattress pads to be used within our quilts. Donations can be placed in the closet by the kitchen. If you have questions regarding the quilting contact Dawn Waite (815-631-8142) or Debbie O'Brien (815-441-0257).

Stewardship



When our time on earth is done,
money and material things will not matter.
But the love, time and kindness we've given others
will shine and live on forever.

*Dearest Lord, teach us to be generous:
Teach us to serve you as you deserve:
To give and not to count the cost.
Amen*

Give with a grateful heart for all he has done for us!

LWR Personal Health Kits

For the month of May we will be collecting **Personal Care Kits**. We will ship these along with our school kits and quilts. There will be a list to take with when you are out shopping that has 5 items that are needed. Once purchased you may place them a plastic shopping bag and drop off by the personal kit display in the back of the church.

These kits go all over the world when natural disaster strikes or political conflict flares. These families often have little chance to gather their belongings before fleeing the danger. They arrive in a refugee camp, or other place of safety, scared, vulnerable and dirty from travel.

The simple items included in a **Personal Care Kit** allow them to wash away dirt and sweat with the fresh scent of soap and the softness of a towel to remind them that they are cared for. So let us do God's Work with Our Hands and share God's grace by providing that simple comfort to those who do not have. Questions please ask Debbie O'Brien, 815-441-0257.

Here is the list of the items needed:

~~1 dark-colored bath towel~~

Thanks to a Thrivent grant from Patty Arians, you will NOT need to purchase a towel this year.

2 or 3-Bath size bars of soap (**8oz or more total**). Please KEEP in original packaging. Any brand welcome.

1-Adult size toothbrush .Please KEEP in original packaging or a business size envelope.

1-Sturdy comb (no picks or fine toothed combs).

1-metal nail clipper with or without a file.



Mark your Calendar!

God's Work Our Hands – Saturday, May 11th at LOMC

Tri Church will be participating in a workday at LOMC (Lutheran Outdoor Ministry Center) near Oregon, IL on Saturday, May 11th. Work will begin at 9:00 a.m. and conclude at 4:00 p.m. – any help you can give that day will be appreciated! Lunch will be provided at noon (freewill donation).

The project list includes mulch spreading and garden bed work, tree trimming, deck board replacement and staining, trail maintenance, window washing and spring cleaning, small carpentry repairs and toilet repairs. Rob Foelski, LOMC Property Manager, will be present to provide instruction and guidance.

It is recommended that participants bring work gloves, a water bottle, hat, sunscreen, and insect repellent. Optional items include tools for landscaping and basic repairs.

There is a sign-up sheet on the clipboard at the back of the sanctuary for those able to help; include if you plan to attend lunch. Please sign-up no later than Sunday, May 5th. In addition, LOMC is a volunteer partner with Sauk Valley Community College's Impact Program.



Birthday **BUDDIES**

We are participating with Tri-Church serving LSSI group homes this coming year in a new program to make birthdays a special day for some people in our community! "Birthday Buddies" is a program that will give some differently-abled people an opportunity to feel God's love through a gift on their special day. Each of the Tri-Church congregations will take turns providing a gift and cupcakes for residents monthly. Our first resident Richard B, who likes fast food and watching movies, we will celebrate with on May 6th.

Thanks in advance for sharing God's love through the Birthday Buddies program! Our next Birthday buddy will be in August. If you like more information or to help out, please talk to Greg Zeigler.





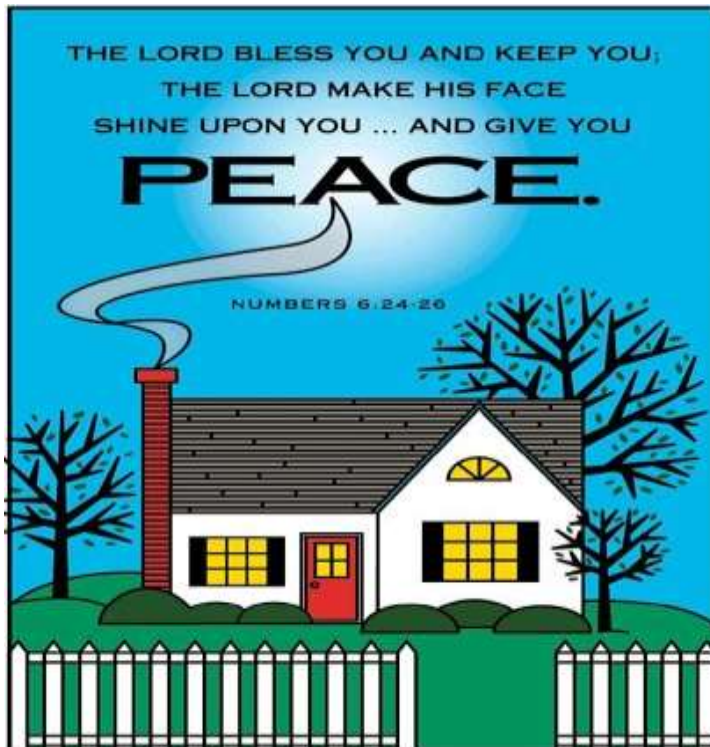
HYMN REQUESTS:

Thank you to all who have shared your favorite hymns! I have been incorporating them into our worship music – and hopefully you've been enjoying singing and hearing them! The hymn request folder remains on the usher's stand; I will check periodically for your selections, or feel free to send your requests to me via email.

dawn@stpaulsterling.com

ST. PAUL STUDENT MUSICIANS:

This summer, the **UNITE** churches are again hosting student musicians from the Sterling/Rock Falls area. This includes any student completing 7th grade – a just graduated college student. We ask that students share a piece with St. Paul and then arrange to play that piece at other **UNITE** congregations, where you will be paid \$25/service as a guest musician. This is a chance to keep your music skills tip top over the summer, share an IMEA or audition piece you may be working on, or another special piece. Please contact Dawn Zeigler 815.275.3775 or dawn@stpaulsterling.com for all of the details! We can't wait to hear you!



BIRTHDAYS FOR OUR CHURCH MEMBERS & FRIENDS

**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
- 11 Shawn Andrews
- 13 Chrissy Zollinger
- 15 Dawn Zeigler
- 16 Ron Hulteen
- 18 Mel Johnson
- 21 Eileen Wolber
- 22 Keller Arduini
- 28 Libby Schrader

Happy 17th Anniversary

May 27, 2006

Ryan & Valerie Petty

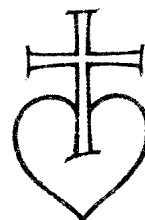
MAY



Youth News!

Middle School Ministry of Confirmation

5th-8th Graders: Confirmation is a multi-year opportunity to explore your faith through Bible Study, questions, service, worship, retreats and more! Immanuel, St. Paul and St. John's are teaming up for Confirmation this year through monthly Sunday gatherings from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Each session will include a light lunch.



We also have service and fellowship opportunities such as retreats and packing Buddy Bags, lunches for school kids to take home on the weekend. We pack right up the road at Wesley Methodist Church 2200 16th Ave. in Sterling.

The schedule for the year is below:

May 5, 2024; 11am-2pm at Immanuel exploring Communion

We hope you can attend as many opportunities as you are able. Nothing is required, but now is the time to explore faith and friendship. You will get out of our time together what you put into it.

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. Thank you for sharing in the ministry of giving and helping to feed our local children.



CELEBRATING GRADUATES: High school seniors, promoting 8th grade students and post-high school '24 grads. Graduate Sunday is set for June 2. Please let the church office know if you/your student is graduating, being promoted, receiving a certificate, or approaching a new life milestone. We look forward to celebrating and honoring you! The church office will be contacting all grads with

ELCA National Youth Gathering



The 2024 Youth Gathering will be held July 16-20, 2024 in New Orleans. Even though there is no one from St. Paul participating this year. Help support the youth from Immanuel and St. John's with their upcoming Rummage sales. Immanuel Young Adult Gathering & National Youth Gathering participants and their households will be holding a rummage sale

in June of 2024. You are welcome to donate gently used items for the sale by placing them in the room labeled "Rummage Sale Items" in the basement. Please refrain from bringing adult clothing, children's apparel is welcome. THANKS! St. John's will be participating in the Sterling and Rock Falls Community Garage Sales on May 18th from 9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. You are welcomed to bring donations to the church before May 10th. There will be a collection area set up in the Luther Chapel. All monies raised will help support youth events like the Quake and National Youth Gathering.

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 29th annual event to be held at Westwood Sports Complex in Sterling on Saturday, June 8 from 5:00-9:00 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.

Cancer survivors: Please register by calling 1-800-ACS-2345 or online at: www.relayforlife.org/saukvalleyil to walk the first lap, receive a free Survivor T shirt, and a free box meal after the opening lap.



Join in supporting the hunger needs of young people in our area! Individually packed pasta donations are needed! Let's Feed Our Children serves grab-and-go meals at 19 sites throughout Whiteside County in Rock Falls, Sterling, Tampico, Erie, Fulton, Lyndon, Prophetstown, and Morrison, throughout the summer for young people ages 18 and younger. In the summer of 2023 they served or

34,000 free meals! You can be a part of this vital service through your donation of Individually packed pasta. Kid's favorite choices are: Easy Mac, Chef Boyardee style of pasta, ramen noodles and chicken noodle soup. Donations can be brought in anytime before Mother's Day, May 12. Thanks in advance for donating as you are able! This year lunches will be packed at New Life Church. If you like to help in the

packing of the lunches, you can sign up by following this link: Choose your volunteer position and dates here: <https://signup.com/go/fXBAKtz> or reach out to United Way of Whiteside County at 815.625.7973 or mybarra@uwwhiteside.org
St. Paul will still be a site where lunches can be picked up by families. We will need a volunteer(s) from St. Paul to help hand out lunches. Contact Sue if you are able to help out with this.

Your city and rural letter carriers of Sterling and Rock Falls will participate in the National Association of Letter Carriers Food Drive on Saturday, May 11. Please place nonperishable food and/or paper product donations by your mailbox and the carriers will pick them up. Please help our community. This has been successful in the past and can only continue with your help. Thank you.



MAY 4 and 11, 2024

1974-2024
LOMC
Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Center

**MAY WORK
DAYS**

9:00am-4:00pm



Let's Feed our Children



INDIVIDUAL PASTA DRIVE

MOTHER'S DAY
SUNDAY, MAY 12TH

Help the United Way serve FREE meals for children in Whiteside County.
15,000+ servings will be needed this summer.
Popular choices are Easy Mac, Chef Boyardee, ramen, & chicken noodle soup.

Donations may be collected at your church and
New Life Church (702 W Lynn Blvd., Sterling) May 13th-16th, 8:30AM-3PM.
Questions? Contact United Way at 815.625.7973 or kolson@uwwhiteside.org



Great Option: Easy Mac Pouches
No bowl = less expensive!

SPONSORED BY



United Way
of Whiteside County



Camp Firelight

A SUMMER CAMP

ADVENTURE WITH GOD

JUNE 23-25, 2024

6-8 pm with a free dinner at 5:30

1st Presbyterian Church, Sterling, IL

For all students PreK-5th Grade



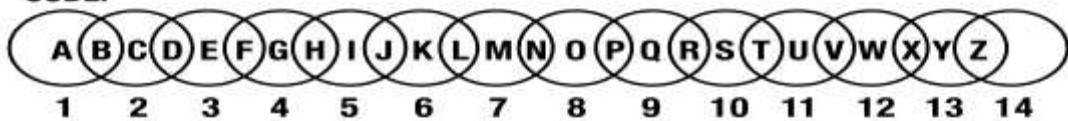
COMMUNITY

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Puzzle!

Use the code to complete the blanks — and find out how God wants us to treat people.

CODE:



$\overline{1,2}$ $\overline{3}$ $\overline{6}$ $\overline{5}$ $\overline{7,8}$ $\overline{2,3}$ $\overline{1}$ $\overline{7,8}$ $\overline{2,3}$

$\overline{2}$ $\overline{8}$ $\overline{7}$ $\overline{8,9}$ $\overline{1}$ $\overline{10}$ $\overline{10}$ $\overline{5}$ $\overline{8}$ $\overline{7,8}$ $\overline{1}$ $\overline{10,11}$ $\overline{3}$

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$\overline{3,4}$ $\overline{8}$ $\overline{9,10}$ $\overline{4}$ $\overline{5}$ $\overline{11,12}$ $\overline{5}$ $\overline{7,8}$ $\overline{4}$ $\overline{3}$ $\overline{1}$ $\overline{2}$ $\overline{4,5}$

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$\overline{5}$ $\overline{7,8}$ $\overline{2}$ $\overline{4,5}$ $\overline{9,10}$ $\overline{5}$ $\overline{10}$ $\overline{10,11}$ $\overline{4}$ $\overline{8}$ $\overline{2,3}$

$\overline{3,4}$ $\overline{8}$ $\overline{9,10}$ $\overline{4}$ $\overline{1}$ $\overline{11,12}$ $\overline{3}$ $\overline{13}$ $\overline{8}$ $\overline{11}$ '

EPHESIANS 4:32, NIV



"Hey, could we have some volunteers
to stay and help clean up?"

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



2024 Congregation Council

President – Chad Arians

Vice President – Greg Zeigler

Treasurer – Chrissy Zollinger

Secretary – Stacey Avelar

Christian Education/Youth

Stacey Avelar ('25)

Stewardship

Greg Zeigler ('25)

Social Outreach

Stacey Avelar ('25)

Lay Ministry & Worship

Chrissy Zollinger ('25)

Julie Woessner ('25)

Property & Management

Dan Bartel ('26)

Chad Arians ('25)

Members-at-large

David Carrillo ('25)

Mary Ordean ('26)

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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