MISSION & OUTREACH

Will NOT meet in July and August.

DO-DAY

Will **NOT** meet in **July**.

PRISCILLA CIRCLE

Will meet on Monday, July 14 at 2:30 p.m. Bible Study: Gail P. / Hostess: Donna K.

BIRTHDAY CLUB

Will meet on Thursday, July 17 at 10:00 a.m.

MEN'S EARLY RISERS

Will meet on **July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 at 8:00 a.m.** at Cook's Café.

POP-UP BIBLE STUDY

Will meet according to schedules. Contact Lori Brown (348-2670) for dates/times.

SUNDAY SCHOOL/JAM

SS/JAM will resume in September. Enjoy Summer!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS)

VBS is **July 7-10** from **1-5 p.m.** Volunteers are needed, see the sign up in the narthex!





<u>Jr. High Youth Group</u> (6th-8th Grade)

* July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 -(2:00-3:00 p.m.) Youth Community Bible Study at Breu Haus.

Sr. High Youth Group (9th-12th Grade)

- * July 7-10 (1:00-5:00 p.m.) Volunteer with VBS if you are able to during any time of VBS.
- * July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 (2:00-3:00 p.m.) Youth Community Bible Study at Breu Haus.
- * **July 13, 20 (6:30-8:00 p.m.)** Sr. High Youth Group will meet.

Sr. High Mission Trip - July 27-August 2 Colorado Springs, Colorado.

6:30 a.m. - Mission Trip Group need to be at the church to load.

6:45 a.m. - Prayer and Send Off for the Mission Trip Group. All are welcome to come pray.

1 MORÉ CHAPERONE IS NEEDED FOR THE MISSION TRIP...contact Bri!

2025 RADIO BROADCASTS/FLOWERS/COFFEE FELLOWSHIP:

(2025 sign-up charts are in the narthex to sign up for a special date or call the office 324-3049.)

Radio Broadcast Dates: (\$95/broadcast)

July 13; October 12; November 30; December 14.

<u>Coffee Fellowship Dates:</u> Looking for volunteers to help with coffee fellowship!

Flowers On The Altar: Please see the Flowers schedule for open dates.

Thank you to all who sponsored the Radio Broadcasts, Live Streams, Flowers, & Coffee Fellowships.



Radio Broadcast on Sundays at 9:00 a.m. on KIWA - FM 100.7 and AM 1550 Website: www.stpaulsheldon.org

E-mail: **pleasant@nethtc.net**Church Office: **(712) 324-3049**

Pastor: Christopher Martin ~ E-mail: pastor@stpaulsheldon.org







From the Pastor...

July 2025



Dear members of St. Paul,

Lindsay, Bradon, Zachary, Cassie, and I want to thank you all for the warm welcome you all have showered upon us in the weeks leading up to, and in the weeks since, our move to Sheldon and since I began my call as your Pastor on June 1st! We are happy and blessed to be a part of the family of faith here at St. Paul, Sheldon, and to be a part of this entire community.

As many of you know, I'm a native Iowan, and my extended family is all within a couple or three hours of Sheldon. On the day I announced to our congregations in Wisconsin we had accepted your call and were leaving, as I was fighting back tears after my announcement, one of the members of our congregation at Glen Flora said: "Pastor, you don't have to be sad. We're going to miss you, but this is a happy occasion because you're going home." With that theme of returning home with my coming here to St. Paul, I am reminded of a verse from the Gospel reading we heard on June 22, from Jesus, and how it's a perfect theme for my first article in this newsletter.

In Luke 8:26-29, we read of the time Jesus encountered a man who had been possessed by several demons. Simply by His Word and command to the demons to leave, they have no choice but to leave, and in many ways, this man is given his life back. He begs Jesus to go with Him, but Jesus has something else for him to do instead: "Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." (Luke 8:39) And that's exactly what he did. He went back from where he came from, in his right mind, and what a story he had to tell of what Jesus had done for him.

I mention this because, as much as I am overjoyed at being "home" and being much closer to my family, God has a purpose for my being called into your midst here at St. Paul. It's the same as the man who had been delivered from the demons. I'm here to tell you about Jesus. About everything He has done for me, and for you. We here at St. Paul have something special. We are sinners who have been made saints by the blood of our crucified and risen Savior, Jesus. Even before we were born, God loved us so much, that He made away for us to be His own! That's what we celebrate every time we gather around God's Word for worship, Bible Study, and everything else we do.

But that's not where it ends. You and I have also been called to go into the places our daily lives take us, and share with this community, and the world, what God has done for us through Jesus, and that He has done for them as well. I want to encourage you to think about someone in your life who either you haven't seen here at church for a while, or someone in your life who doesn't have a church home, and prayerfully consider inviting them to come with you to worship, to see and hear for themselves what God has done for you, and for them through Jesus. As we do that, I believe that the Holy Spirit is going to open some doors for some powerful moments of ministry in the years to come.

I am looking forward to what the future has in store for us. I join with many of you in that I believe some of the best days of St. Paul Lutheran Church are ahead of us, and I can't wait to see that unfold and to be a part of it. May God bless you this summer, and I look forward to seeing you in worship, and getting acquainted with each and every one of you in the months and years to come.

Your Friend in Christ,

Pastor Christopher Martin

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY - BRI

Middle school (6th, 7th, and 8th grade) youth group has concluded for the year. Please be on the lookout for events this summer to participate in!



We will continue to meet at Breu Haus with other youth groups every Wednesday from 2:00-3:00 p.m. for a short study and game time. This is open to those entering 7th through 12th grades! We often stay late, please feel free to come for all or part of the time. Parents are always welcome to stay. Drinks are provided-just tell them you're there with St. Paul at the register! There will be dates in July, I will be gone and someone else from St. Paul will stand in.

High school will meet on the following Sunday evenings for Sr. High Youth (6:30-8:00 p.m.) through the summer, schedule subject to change but will be communicated if it does:

July 13 July 20 August 10 August 17

Those having completed 8th grade are welcome to join high school youth groups in the summer.

Please consider signing up to help with VBS! Teen helpers are always appreciated, the kids love teen helpers especially! - Bri Oetken, Youth Director

SR. HIGH MISSION TRIP - July 27-August 2



We will leave for the Mission Trip to Colorado Springs, Colorado, on July 27. Students are to be to church by 6:30 a.m. We will have a send off and prayer at 6:45 a.m. - please join us! Students attending the mission trip - please bring a snack to share and money for two lunches along the way. Students: Rachel Besaw, Hunter Getting, Jaxon Hegenbarth, Jayden Hegenbarth, Josh Hoffmann, Bri Honkomp, Kyler McCuddin, Evan Wynja. Chaperones: Bri Oetken, Mike McCuddin.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

"Captivated" July 7-10, 2024 1:00-5:00 p.m.



Register online at stpaulsheldon.org or pick up a form at the back of the sanctuary.

Theme: At "Captivated" VBS, kids will become more aware of God's presence and God's grace while

focusing on God to learn who He says we are!

- > Monday: God is With Us
- > Tuesday: Grace
- > Wednesday: **Distractions**
- > Thursday: Fully Captivated

Parents and family- join us on Thursday at 5:00 p.m. for a short closing program in the church sanctuary! Root Beer Floats will be served by the Fellowship Committee following the program in the fellowship hall. We need volunteers and craft and snack donations! See the list in the Narthex.

Vacation Bible School is for students who have completed nursery school through 6th grade.

VBS students need to bring:

- Container to place daily crafts in (with their name on it)
- School Supply Item (#2 pencils, crayons, erasers) for E. Elementary)

Sample Schedule:

- 1:00 Opening
- 1:30 Bible Study
- 2:00 Rotations (Crafts, Game)
- 3:00 Barrels (Snack)
- 3:25 Rotations (Science, Game)
- 4:30 Closing
- 5:00 Students Head Home

JAM (Jesus And Me)

Are you interested in helping out JAM, contact Jill Cook or church staff. If you will have a child in 1st-6th grades for the 2025-26 year and would like to know more about JAM, please let us know! JAM will resume in September. - Jill Cook, JAM Director

PASTORAL ACTS

Wedding: Colin and Katlyn (Redinius) De Vos.

Transferred In: Rev. Christopher Martin, Hope Lutheran Church, Ladysmith, WI.

Lindsay, Bradon, Zachary, and Cassaundra Martin, Glen Flora Lutheran Church, Glen Flora, WI.

YEARLY FINANCIAL UPDATE

Total Income Total Expense Income Less Expense	\$ 15,485.29 \$ - 23,038.37 \$ -7,553.08
Fiscal Year Income Fiscal Year Expense Fiscal Year Income Less Expense	\$ 90,481.04 \$ -110,655.87 \$ -20,174.83
Air Conditioner Units Loan June Monthly Payment Principal Payment (6/11/25) Balance Due	\$ 23,825.00 \$ - 575.00 \$ -1,762.16 \$ 21,487.84



ST. PAUL - OFFICE HOURS

St. Paul Offices will be CLOSED on July 4 for the holiday. Secretary Office Hours will be from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. July 29, 30, 31, and August 4. A reminder on Fridays the Office Hours are from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. <u>Please note</u>: The Security Doors are answered daily from 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. The Security Doors are <u>NOT</u> answered on holidays.

VBS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

St. Paul Lutheran VBS will be held July 7-10! VOLUNTEERS are needed to help during the VBS time, sign-up in the narthex. Donations are also needed for snacks each day. Please sign-up in the narthex for snack items needed - all food items need to be in the kitchen by July 6.

SCHOOL KITS - MISSION AND OUTREACH

Please help us send school bags to Lutheran World Relief. School supplies are being collected. Each kit contains one school bag. School bags are made by the church sewing ladies.

Each School Kit Contains:

- 4 70-80 Sheet Notebooks (wide or college rule)
- 1 Ruler (inches on one side, centimeters on the other)
- 1 Pencil Sharpener
- 1 Pair Blunt Scissors
- 5 Unsharpened No. 2 Pencils
- 5 Black or Blue Ballpoint Pens (not gel ink)
- 1 Crayon Box (16 or 24 count)
- 1 2 1/2 in. Eraser



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



Please prayerfully consider helping with the Worship services on Sunday mornings! We are needing more volunteers to help with the Sound Tech, Video Tech, PowerPoint Tech, Usher, Lector, and Coffee Fellowship! Please, Please, Please... contact the office for more information or to sign up. Training will be given for the Tech positions.

ST. PAUL - FOOD COLLECTION

Thank you to everyone who donated items in June to the Love Inc. and Upper Des Moines Opportunity pantries. Your donations were greatly appreciated!

SUMMER FREE LUNCHES FOR KIDS



Sheldon Community School District will be serving FREE Summer Meals (June 2-August 15) at East Elementary Cafeteria from 11:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m. (use the north door) Summer meals are available for all children and teens 18 and under. There will be a Bus Pick-up at designated stops throughout Sheldon. Please see the times and locations as posted on the church bulletin boards.

SHELDON MOBILE FOOD BANK

The Sheldon Mobile Food Bank will be on Thursday, July 10. Please come to the Living Water Community Church, Sheldon, from 4:30-6:00 p.m.



SHELDON UNITY MEAL



The FREE Sheldon Area Unity Meal will be held on Monday, July 21 from 5:30-6:30 p.m. at Living Water Community Church. Free groceries are also available.

TOUCH OF HOPE - HAITI

St. Paul is sponsoring Lensley Raymond and his 5th grade class of the Simonette community. Sponsorship helps with yearly school expenses. To make a donation to this ministry, please write "Touch of Hope-Haiti" in the check memo. Thank you.

IOLBC QUILT AUCTION WEEKEND

Mark your calendars and make plans for the IOLBC Quilt Auction Weekend August 1-2, 2025! The Online Quilt Auction August 1 (8:00 AM) through August 4 (6:00 PM)

Friday, August 1:

Quilt Preview in Gym: 3:00 - 7:00 PM Scandinavian Feast: 5:30 - 7:30 PM Glenn Henriksen Concert: 7:00 PM



Saturday, August 2:

5K Run/Walk-Virtual 5K: 8:00 AM Quilt Preview in Gym: 9:00 - 11:30 AM Lunch in Dining Hall:11:00 AM-12:30 PM LIVE AUCTION: 12:00 (NOON)

Summer is IOLBC Camp Time! Check your dates for CAMP.



11 students (Pre-K-12th grades) are signed up to attend summer camps!