

MISSION & OUTREACH

Will meet on Wednesday, **October 8** at **9:00 a.m.** (Potluck Lunch)

DO-DAY

Will meet on Wednesday, **October 22** from **9:00 a.m.– 3:00 p.m.** (Potluck Lunch)

PRISCILLA CIRCLE

Will meet on Monday, **October 13** at **2:30 p.m.**
Bible Study: Arlyce O. / **Hostess:** Gail P.

BIRTHDAY CLUB

Will meet on Thursday, **October 16** at **10:00 a.m.**

MEN'S EARLY RISERS

Will meet on **October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29** 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.



Jr. High Youth Group (7th-8th Grade)

- * **October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 - (5:00-6:15 p.m.)** Jr. High Youth group will meet. (Meal served)
- * **October 12 - (4:00-9:00 p.m.)** IOLBC Outreach Night. (Okoboji)
- * **October 29** - Halloween Party during youth group time.

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

- * **October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 - (6:30-8:00 p.m.)** Sr. High Youth group will meet.
- * **October 5 - (12:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.)** Sr. High Youth group to Scarecrow Farm. (Sioux City)

Confirmation

- * **7th/8th Grade** - **October 1, 8, 22, 29 - (4:00-4:50 p.m.)** Class will meet with Pastor Martin.
- **October 12 - (4:00-9:00 p.m.)** IOLBC Outreach Night. (Okoboji)

Registration Deadline: October 12 for OLBC Recharge Retreat-November 14-16 (6th-9th grades)

- * **9th Grade** - **October 5, 19 - (10:15-11 a.m.)** Meet with Pastor Martin.
Confirmation Sunday for 9th Grade Class will be on Sunday, October 26 at 9:00 a.m.

Sunday School (4 yrs.-6th Grade)

- * **October 5, 19 - (10:15-11:00 a.m.)** Will meet on these Sundays. NO SS on October 12 and 26.

JAM (1st-6th Grade)

- * **October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 - (5:00-6:15 p.m.)** JAM meets with a meal served.
- * **October 15 - (5-6:15 p.m.)** Fall Fun/Pizza Night. **(6:30-7 p.m.)** JAM kids sing during Worship.
- * **October 19 - (9:00-10:00 a.m.)** JAM Awareness Sunday-JAM kids sing and collect Noisy Offering.

2025 FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR/COFFEE FELLOWSHIP:



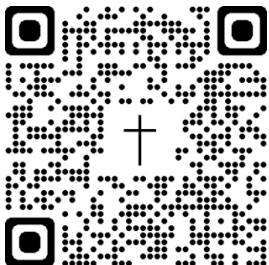
(Sign-up charts (narthex): to sign up for a special date or call the office 324-3049)

Coffee Fellowship Open Dates: November 16, 23, 30. December 7, 21, 28.



Altar Flowers Open Dates: October 5, 12, 19; November 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; December 7, 21, 28.

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





How many of you have taken the time to study the book of James in the New Testament? It was reported that in his earlier years, Martin Luther once referred to it as “The Epistle of Straw,” and many Christians have a similar attitude toward this particular epistle today. The reason is, on the surface, it seems that James differs from many of the other letters in the New Testament in which we are constantly reminded that we are saved by God’s grace through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. Compare that to what we read in James 2:

“So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. But someone will say, ‘You have faith and I have works.’ Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.” (James 2:17-28)

So, is James saying our works save us? I once read someone describe the book of James as “The Proverbs of the New Testament.” This letter was originally written around the year 50 A.D. to what church historians refer to as the “Diaspora,” to Christians who find themselves living in the lands outside of Jerusalem. Many of these believers in Christ found themselves living in areas in which Christians were very much in the minority, often among Jews and Pagans who wanted nothing more than for them to renounce their faith, or suffer. Thus, with this letter, James is giving the Christians living in these circumstances practical guidance to help them live out and witness to their faith in Jesus Christ in their day-to-day lives.

As we see what’s been going on in our world today, and realize that there are many who would wish for us to be silent about our faith in Jesus Christ, James is giving us some important guidance about the Christian life. A living faith in Jesus Christ is not something we pull off of a shelf for the hour or so we are within the walls of the church, and then live as the rest of the sinful, fallen world does the rest of the week. James reminds us, a true, living faith produces fruit. Just as an apple tree produces fruit because it’s an apple tree and that is what apple trees do, the Christian does good works simply because that’s the fruit Christians produce. Paul’s letter to the Galatians gives us examples of the fruit Christians produce in their daily lives when he writes the following:

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self control; against such things there is no law. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.” (Galatians 5:22-24)

Do you see the connection? A faith that walks in the Holy Spirit naturally produces fruit. Good fruit. Fruit that makes it evident for those in our world to see that there is something different about us that separates Christians from the rest of the world. And it’s found in the fruit we produce in our daily lives.

As we look to our mission and ministry here at St. Paul, and our individual lives in Christ, what better way can we seek to make disciples of all nations, and bring the light of Christ to our dark world, than by each of us asking ourselves the question: what fruit of the Spirit can I show today that will lead someone to hear about Jesus, and His love, grace, forgiveness, mercy, and life? How can I live my day-to-day life in a way that isn’t centered in what I want, but rather, is centered in what God wants me to do to serve Him, to show others the difference faith in Jesus Christ makes for this life, and for eternity? That fruit is going to vary from person to person. But can you imagine the powerful impact we can have from this church into the community and the world, if we simply commit ourselves to living our daily lives in Christ, and to boasting in Him, instead of others?

As we go through the month of October, and watch the leaves change color, the temperatures get cooler, and the daylight hours become shorter, let’s not spend our time focusing on things that change, and lament what is beyond our control. Instead, let’s focus on what should never change in the life of our church and in our own lives of faith in Jesus Christ; the gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation we have through Jesus, and let’s always be ready to bear forth fruit that shows the world who we are: that we belong to Jesus Christ!

Your Friend in Christ,

Pastor Christopher Martin

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY - BRI



Sr. High youth group (9th-12th grades) will meet on Wednesdays during the school year from 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Junior high youth group (7th-8th grades) meets on Wednesdays from 5:00-6:15 p.m. with a meal served. Friends are always welcome at Jr. High or Sr. High youth group!

Please fill out a registration form for your student(s) this year if you have not done so already. They can be found on the table in the back of the sanctuary.

Thank you for all of the support for the sub sandwich fundraiser!! We sold 1,560 sandwiches!

High school will go to Scarecrow Farm on Sunday, October 5. We will leave church at 12:00 p.m. (eat lunch before you come!) plan to arrive at 1:00 p.m., and grab dinner in Sioux City afterwards, with an estimated time back home at 6:00 p.m. Please bring money for your own dinner or let Bri know if funds are needed! We need drivers for this event, no longer are high school students able to drive themselves. Please RSVP by September 28.

Confirmation students and Jr. High youth group will go to the Outreach Night at IOLBC (Okoboji location) on October 12. Please meet at church at 4:00 p.m., we will return at 9:00 p.m. There is no cost for this event, but please RSVP for Jr. High youth not in confirmation so we have an accurate count for transportation/dinner. **A reminder that it is required for confirmation students to attend.**

Confirmation students: Recharge Retreat November 14-16 at IOLBC (Okoboji location) - please have your registration form and \$45 to the church office by October 12. Students in 6th-9th grade not in confirmation are welcome to attend! (Registration form and \$45 to office by October 12 as space fills up quickly!) We will leave St. Paul at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, November 14 and return home by 1:30 p.m. on November 16. We will request St. Paul students are in the same cabins (by gender). Parents are welcome to come as well and are housed in their own, separate space, let Bri know if you're interested in this!

Confirmation Students: Please plan on the following dates for Recharge/Outreach Nights at IOLBC Okoboji Location on Sunday evenings. No cost for outreach nights - each scheduled Sunday we will meet at church at 4:00 p.m. and return by 9:00 p.m. High school students may join occasionally.

2025

October 12 - Block Party/Kickball

November 14 - 16 - Weekend Recharge (Okoboji Location)

December 7 - Christmas Mystery

2026

February 15 - Hoonting

March 15 - Gargoyles

April 12 - Church vs. Church Dodgeball

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday school will run from 10:15-11:00 a.m. this year. We will not meet on October 12, due to the Pastor/Staff Appreciation Sunday or October 26, due to Confirmation Sunday.



- Bri Oetken, Youth Director



JAM (Jesus And Me)

JAM is under way and we are off to a good start! We had 15 1st-6th grade students at our JAM kickoff on Wednesday, September 10. If your 1st-6th grade student was unable to attend the kickoff but would like to join us, please fill out a registration form and leave it with Jill or Bri, or the church office. We rotate through Bible Lesson, Craft/Activity and Music each week. We all gather in the Fellowship Hall after rotations to eat as a large group. Our program runs from 5:00-6:15 p.m. each Wednesday evening.

Thank you to all who have signed up to sponsor a Pizza Night! We are so thankful for the positive response we have received; it is very appreciated. Pizza Night sponsors are invited to join us for supper on their sponsorship date. Our Dessert sign-up is in the narthex and we welcome any kid-friendly dessert donations. Details are on the display. Thanks!

October 19, is JAM awareness Sunday. The JAM kids will sing during the worship service and also collect a Noisy Offering that will go towards our meal budget for the year. Our program feeds the JAM students, Jr. High youth group, and all the volunteers who come to make these programs possible each week. We appreciate your support in this way. The Parish Ed committee hosts the Coffee Fellowship that morning in honor of the JAM students and staff. The JAM students will also sing the prior Wednesday evening (10/15) during worship. Thank you for your support of JAM!

- Jill Cook, JAM Director

PASTORAL ACTS

Funeral: Cynthia Klatt.

YEARLY FINANCIAL UPDATE

AUGUST

Total Income	\$ 21,762.56
Total Expense	\$ - 28,305.45
Income Less Expense	\$ - 6,542.89
Fiscal Year Income	\$ 147,989.20
Fiscal Year Expense	\$ - 196,121.73
Fiscal Year Income Less Expense	\$ -48,132.53
Air Conditioner Units Loan	\$ 17,321.57
September Monthly Payment	\$ - 575.00
Balance Due	\$ 16,746.57



PASTOR/STAFF APPRECIATION SUNDAY

Please join us on Sunday, October 12, to show our appreciation to Rev. Christopher Martin (Pastor), Bri Oetken (Youth Director/Sunday School Superintendent), Tami Roetman (Office Manager), Kristi Hegenbarth (Assistant Office Secretary), Dee Redinius (Assistant Office Manager), Susan Lichty (Worship Coordinator), and Seth Oetken (Custodian), as we celebrate Pastor/Staff Appreciation Sunday with a Potluck Brunch beginning at 10:15 a.m. Please come and bring your favorite dish to share! Sponsored by St. Paul Council and Fellowship Committee.

CHILD PROTECTION TRAINING

St. Paul Lutheran Church is requiring all volunteers and encouraging all parents of St. Paul Youth, to fill out a Background Check form. They are available from the church office and in the sanctuary. Please return the completed form sealed in the attached envelope and return it to the church office or place the envelope under the office door. In the interest of the safety of our youth, our insurance company is requiring this of anyone who will have contact with our youth. There will be a required short training class for all volunteers who are not already current mandatory reporters of child abuse and neglect. Child Protection Training be on October 1 at 7:00 p.m. or October 5 at 10:15 a.m.

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26

"I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power." - Ephesians 1:16-19



The following students will be confirmed in their faith and will be participating in the Service of Affirmation of Baptism on Reformation Sunday, October 26, during the 9:00 a.m. Worship service. Please keep them in your prayers.

Thomas Holt Hegenbarth



Bradon Christopher Martin

CONFIRMATION CLASS OF 2025

The 9th grade Confirmation students that have completed their confirmation studies and would like to affirm their faith through the rite of Confirmation, will meet with Pastor Martin from 10:15-11:00 a.m. on October 5 and 19 to prepare for their Affirmation of Baptism.

THANK YOU - SUB SANDWICH FUNDRAISER

The Jr. High/Sr. High Youth groups would like to thank everyone who ordered subs and supported the youth groups with this fundraiser. A total of 1,560 sub sandwiches were made on September 21.

CEMETERY FLOWERS REMOVAL DEADLINE

The deadline for removal of plants, flowers, etc. at the St. Paul Lutheran Cemetery is **Monday, October 6**. Please make sure all items are removed by this date.



2026 BUDGET REQUEST DEADLINE

Any budget requests for 2026, are due by **Sunday, October 26**. Please make sure to turn all budget requests into the church office by this deadline. Thank you.

COATS FOR KIDS

Sheldon Ministerial Association will be offering Coats for Kids this fall!

Donations of new or gently used children's winter coats are needed.

Donations can be dropped off at Love INC or here at St. Paul. There is a box labeled "Coats For Kids" in the fellowship hall. Distribution of the coats will be held in conjunction with the Sheldon Mobile Food Bank dates on October 9 and November 13 from 4:30-6:00 p.m.



POINSETTIA FUNDRAISER SALES



The youth group will take orders for poinsettias October 5-26, and before/after church on Sundays October 5, 12, 19, and 26.

Available poinsettia colors: red, white, or pink. Prices are: 4"- \$10.50; 6.5"- \$16.50; 8"- \$26.50; and the 10" (only available in red or white) - \$37.50.

All money and poinsettia orders need to be turned in on Sunday, October 26.

Pick up poinsettias at the church on Tuesday, November 25 at 3:00 p.m.

UPDATED PRAYER CHAIN LIST

The updated Prayer Chain list is completed. If you are on the Prayer Chain, an updated list has been placed in your mailbox.

COLLEGE/MILITARY ADDRESSES NEEDED



Addresses are needed for any member of St. Paul currently in college or serving in the military. You may E-mail it to pleasant@nethtc.net or drop it off in the office/office mailbox. By mid November. We will be putting the Care Packages together the end of November. If you would like to help, please contact the church office.

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, contact the office for more information or to sign up. Training will be given for the Tech positions.

SHELDON MOBILE FOOD BANK

The Sheldon Mobile Food Bank will be on Thursday, October 9. 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, October 20 from 5:30-6:30 p.m. at Living Water Community Church. Free groceries are also available.

JAM AWARENESS SUNDAY



October 19, is JAM awareness Sunday. The JAM kids will sing during the worship service and also collect a Noisy Offering that will go towards our meal budget for the year. Our program feeds the JAM students, Jr. High youth group, and all the volunteers who come to make these programs possible each week. We appreciate your support in this way. The Parish Ed Committee hosts the Coffee Fellowship that morning in honor of the JAM students and staff.

The JAM students will also sing on Wednesday evening, October 15, during 6:30 p.m. Worship.

NOAH'S ARK PRESCHOOL/NURSERY SCHOOL



Family Night will be on Thursday, October 23 from 5:00-6:00 p.m.

Parent/Teacher Conferences will take place on October 27 and 28.

Basket Auction will be November 2-16! If anyone would like to donate a basket to Noah's Ark for the auction, please take it downstairs to Noah's Ark. Baskets will be in the narthex for viewing and to bid after October 26.

IOWA REFUND - CAN/BOTTLE REMINDER

ONLY Iowa Refund cans and plastic bottles should be placed into our IA redemption container outside. Please NO water bottles! Donations go to the JAM fund. Thank you.

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.

SPAGHETTI FUNDRAISER

St. Paul Camp Committee will meet on October 5 at 10:45 a.m. to plan and set the date for the annual Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser! Free Will offering. Watch for upcoming information in the bulletin. A letter will also be sent to families with further information.

