

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH
314 FOURTH AVE NE
WASECA, MN 56093

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Jesus Loves

AUGUST 2024

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²² And he said to his disciples, "Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat, nor about your body, what you will put on. ²³ For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. ²⁴ Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! ²⁵ And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? ²⁶ If then you are not able to do as small a thing as that, why are you anxious about the rest? **Luke 12:22-26**

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH - (MISSOURI SYNOD)

314 - 4th Ave NE, Waseca, MN 56093
Church Office Hours (Mon-Fri): 9am-1pm

Phone: (507) 835-2647
Email: stpaulwa@hickorytech.net

Mission Statement

"Empowered by God's Word, we joyfully share the Love of Jesus with all people."

Vision Statement

*"We will be a vibrant, welcoming church serving the **needs** of our **members, community,** and **missions** by **partnering** with other churches and **organizations** while **preaching and teaching** the inspired Word of God and our Savior Jesus Christ."*

SUNDAY MORNINGS (JUNE, JULY, AUGUST):

✠ **Divine Service w/Holy Communion:**

○ 9:00 a.m. (also Facebook Live; and Radio 1170 AM/106.3 FM)

✠ **Adult Bible Study** at 10:30 a.m.

Pastor: Rev. Michael J. Grannis

Mobile Phone: 952-686-3046

Email: revgrannis@gmail.com



St. Paul, Waseca Newsletter August 2024

If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. ~

Colossians 3:1-2

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ,

June was a big month for youth activities here at St. Paul. I joined the youth and several adults for the annual mission trip. This year we went to Give Kids the World Village in Florida. There we served hundreds of kids and their families, helping to bless them through the love of Christ with the gift of fun and relaxation, as they wrestle with life-changing health diagnosis.

As always, Mark Pehrson and his crew did a wonderful job of planning the trip and leading a small company (31 of us in all) from the church, down to Florida and back again. The kids took turns leading morning and evening devotions, framing each day in God's Word and in prayer. We served hurting families with the love of Christ, and we had a lot of fun in the sun. Thanks be to God for keeping us safe along our journey and helping us grow in our Christian witness and life of faith through love for our neighbors.

A few short weeks later, Kelli Lenz and I along with 5 youth from our congregation joined up with 15 youth and adults from Trinity in Waterville. Together the 22 of us headed east to attend the Higher Things Conference at Concordia University, Wisconsin. Many have asked me the question, "What is this Higher Things thing I keep hearing about?" So, let me give you a brief history...

The Higher Things Conferences are regional LCMS youth conferences held each summer at different locations through the U.S. These conferences have been going on for over 20 years now. They started in 1998, when several LCMS pastors had the idea and began planning to hold smaller, more regionally minded, cost-effective conference for youth, which would be designed to be uniquely Lutheran. A year later, those plans were unveiled for the "Dying to Live" national Lutheran youth conference. This event was saw over 700 youth and adults from 25 states, come together in the summer of 2000 for what was essentially the first Higher Things Conference. Based on the success of that first conference, more plans developed for what would become the ministry organization called *Higher Things*.

The name "Higher Things" was derived from Colossians 3:1-2 (see above), which was chosen as the theme verse of the organization. Today over 1700 LCMS congregations have

been impacted by the mission of Higher Things, which boldly challenges our youth (and their leaders) to “Dare to be Lutheran.”

According to their webpage:

Higher Things is many things, all of which seek to keep young people focused on Christ and His gifts as they grow and mature in their faith. It is parents teaching their children the catechism. It is youth workers and volunteers reinforcing what is preached from their congregations’ pulpits and confessed in their pews. And it is pastors keeping their young sheep Lutheran as they grow up.

In short Higher Things is a Lutheran youth-ministry organization with a “mission to assist parents, pastors, and congregations in cultivating a distinctly Lutheran identity among their youth and young adults.” It provides resources for free and for purchase, designed to bring the Gospel of Christ, and Him crucified to youth via events, apps, confirmation curriculum, Reflections, videos, articles, VBS curriculum, and more.

So, the Higher Things Conference that we went to was one of three regional conferences Higher Things held this summer (this is my 4th year taking youth to a Higher Things Conference). There were roughly 1,050 attendees at the event we attended. But as noted above, Higher Things is more than just a few regional annual youth gatherings. For the past 5 years, I have been involved with the Higher Things confirmation camp held annually at Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca (one of our LCMS youth camps down in Iowa). I hope to be able to work with some of our local LCMS Pastors and the staff at Camp Omega to produce a similar camp experience for our area in the coming years. I also used the Higher Things VBS materials for the 4 years prior to coming to Waseca. In addition, I have used some of their videos in youth Bible studies and in confirmation classes. Higher Things is a one stop shop for supporting youth, their families, their Pastors and their congregations in raising them up as members of the Church, who know who they are in Christ, and who are eager to continue growing in that baptismal identity within the context of their local congregation.

If you would like to find out more about what the Higher Things Conference was like I encourage you to ask me or Kelli Lenz (or one of my four older kids). Or you could simply check them out online at <https://higherthings.org/>

Living Forever, Now,

Pastor Grannis

Mark your Calendars for these upcoming event



Will resume on **September 8th at 10:15 with RALLY SUNDAY!** There will be a breakfast in the Upstairs Parish Hall following service to kick off the first day back. We will then go downstairs to the Old Parish Hall for games and music!! We look forward to seeing everyone back at Sunday School!!



The Community Salad Luncheon will be held at St Paul on **August 9th, 2023** from 11am to 1pm. \$8.00 per person.



We are excited to welcome back our **HOT BEEF COMMERCIAL DRIVE THRU'S!**
Friday August 16th, 2024 from 5p-7p. Please stop by, we appreciate your continued support.
Mission Trip 2025 destination: Gettysburg and Washington DC

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We are looking for more interested pray-ers to join us.

August 12, 10: AM in the Fireside Room

St. Paul Lutheran has a Prayer Team, a small group of members who gather in person Monday mornings at 10:-10:45 to pray for our pastor and family, our members, those who have health issues, our church leaders and board members, and whatever else is on our hearts. Some read prayers, some pray from the heart, some bring prayers they have written. We open with reading a prayer from Scripture or verses that teach us more about prayer to grow in our prayer life.

We also have another group, our Prayer Chain. This group doesn't meet in person. The leader receives prayer requests from Pastor or from Aimee, when people have called the church office asking for prayers for them or their loved ones, or from one another. These prayer requests are either sent via email or text to the Prayer Chain members. They are to be confidential, unless the person has requested to be included in prayers during Sunday morning worship.

In the past we have had an annual meeting to go over our procedures with our Pastor and to invite others to join us. We welcome you to join us on August 12 at 10: A.M. in the Fireside Room if you are interested in joining us as a Prayer Chain member or a Prayer Team member.

Prayer played an important part in the early church. "They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread, and to prayer." We know God hears the prayers of faith and answers according to what is best for us. He is able and willing...powerful and merciful...to answer our prayers. We invite you to join us.

Cindy Wood



BIBLE READING SCHEDULE

As we read God's Word this month, look for water, fire, and heat. The prophets often spoke of fire and heat when referring to God's judgment. Jesus often referred to or used water in His teaching and miracles. God's love and grace in Christ moved Him to suffer the tortures of hell

AUGUST:

1. Isaiah 65,66; Psalm 62; John 3
2. II Kings 21; II Chronicles 33; John 4
3. Nahum 1,2,3; John 5
4. II Kings 22; II Chronicles 34; John 6
5. II Kings 23; II Chronicles 35; John 7
6. Habakkuk 1,2,3; John 8
7. Zephaniah 1,2,3; John 9
8. Jeremiah 1,2; John 10
9. Jeremiah 3,4; John 11
10. Jeremiah 5,6; John 12
11. Jeremiah 7,8,9; John 13
12. Jeremiah 10,11,12; John 14
13. Jeremiah 13,14,15; John 15
14. Jeremiah 16,17; Psalm 96; John 16
15. Jeremiah 18,19,20; Psalm 93; John 17
16. II Kings 24; Jeremiah 22; Psalm 112; John 18
17. Jeremiah 23,25; John 19
18. Jeremiah 26,35,36; John 20
19. Jeremiah 45,46,47; Psalm 105; John 21
20. Jeremiah 48,49; Psalm 67; I John 1
21. Jeremiah 21,24,27; Psalm 118; I John 2
22. Jeremiah 28,29,30; I John 3
23. Jeremiah 31,32; I John 4
24. Jeremiah 33,34; Psalm 74; I John 5
25. Jeremiah 37,38,39; Psalm 79; II John
26. Jeremiah 50,51; III John
27. Jeremiah 52; Revelation 1; Psalm 143,144
28. Ezekiel 1,2,3; Revelation 2
29. Ezekiel 4,5,6,7; Revelation 3
30. Ezekiel 8,9,10,11; Revelation 4
31. Ezekiel 12,13,14; Revelation 5



ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

Please arrange a replacement if you can not acolyte at the service assigned to you. Please notify the church office at 507-835-2647 when you have changed with another acolyte. Please arrive to the church 20 minutes before the service begins, as the candles are to be lit 10 minutes before the service.

August 4th, 2024: (Sunday) Joel Hammer

August 11th, 2024: (Sunday) Peyton Ross

August 18th, 2024: (Sunday) Alex Bethke/ Makayla Clark greeter

August 25th, 2024: (Sunday) Owen Arndt



Will meet August 28th at 11:30 am at Pizza Ranch hosted by Judie Waters
Come join us



(Please note: If your name is not listed; we do not have your birthdate in our church records. Please contact the church office and we will update our records. Thank you!)

Name	Birthday			
Michael Grannis	August 1st			
Helen Krause	August 2nd		Emily Guerra	August 20th
Kaylee Seifert	August 3rd		Jonathan Klinger	August 20th
Aimee Hill	August 5th		Jeremy Sikel	August 20th
Derek Hammer	August 7th		Kenneth Lenz	August 21st
Brianna Duval	August 8th		Brian Meyer	August 23rd
Jerry Schoenfeld	August 8th		Todd Proechel	August 23rd
Margaret Schwarz	August 10th		Lois Spies	August 23rd
Michael Flogstad	August 11th		LaVern Sletten	August 26th
Jim Wyffels	August 12th		Bryson Fogal	August 28th
Virginia Cromer	August 13th		Rick Sikel	August 28th
Sharon Goetz	August 13th		Tyler Paulson	August 29th
Amanda Balk	August 14th			
Cheyenne Rosenthal	August 15th			
Randy Wobschall	August 15th			
John Barbknecht	August 16th			
James Larsen	August 16th			
Michael McCormick	August 17th			
David Seifert	August 18th			
Justin Deling	August 20th			

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS:

Sunday School Resumes on Sunday September 8th, 2024

Bring your child(ren) to hear and know the greatest true love story! We begin at 10:20am, immediately following Fellowship time in the Parish Hall.

Ages 3 through 8th grade begin with Opening and Music, followed by Bible stories, crafts and activities. Small group and special events are planned! Students are released to their parents at 11:15am.

Contact Aimee Hill or the Board of Education to get involved in this rewarding ministry. Church office phone 507-835-2647 or email stpaulwaseca@gmail.com.

Pack a Box! Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

Box packing has already started! Sunday School students and youth will be packing boxes during their regular events. Adults can too – ask Jen LaCroix or Aimee Hill to get a box, pack it with items (toys, personal care supplies and school supplies) from the storage room and your own items, and return it filled. We will host a packing party in November, but are hopeful for a more manageable number of boxes on that day.

School supply sales, summer clearance clothing racks and clearance toy bins are a great way to stock up for shoeboxes. Items are stored in a locked room until the November packing party. Items are needed for boys and girls ages 2-14. Monetary donations are also accepted for the \$10 shipping cost per shoebox. Please note: no liquids, gum, gels, pastes, doughs, military toys (water guns) or candy allowed. All items must fit into a medium-sized shoebox. Please pray for the program and the children around the world who will receive the Christmas boxes. Questions? Please contact Aimee Hill in the church office at 507-835-2647 or Jen LaCroix at 507-384-1079 or jenlacx@gmail.com. Thank you!

Current needs:

Monetary donations for \$10 shipping per box – to pack and ship 200 boxes, we need \$2000

Toothbrushes (no toothpaste) – NEED up to 100 more

Notebook paper of all sizes, lined or unlined, spiral bound or not bound – NEED up to 150 more

Coloring books – NEED up to 75 more

Colored pencils, Markers – NEED up to 50 more sets of each (Thank you, we have enough crayons.)

Erasers, Dry watercolor paint sets

Combs, Brushes, Hair accessories, Necklaces, Rings

Jump ropes, Marbles, Jacks, Outdoor activities

Playing cards, small games

Solar calculators, Sunglasses, Band-Aids, Adult size socks

Plain T-Shirts in LARGER SIZES of adult small/medium/large

Wow! Toys for BOYS larger cars/trucks and balls that fit in a shoebox – NEED up to 75 more

Wow! Toys for Teens anything your young teen children/grandchildren like, they would like too!

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Anyone 9th grade to 100 who loves to sing and is interested in being part of the St Paul Lutheran Church Senior Choir in 2024-2025, please meet in the Fellowship Hall by the piano on **Wednesday September 11th, 2024 at 7pm**. If you have any questions, please contact Kelli Lenz.

COTTA GUILD NEWS:



Lutheran
Women
in Mission

July Cotta Guild Meeting:

Cotta Guild met on Thursday July 11th at 1pm. Pastor did devotions on Romans 4:16 "Justification on Faith Alone." Hymn 334, vs 3 coincides with this reading.

There were no June minutes since we took a field trip to Austin's Hormel Museum, Hormel Mansion and at lunch at Piggy Blues.

Treasurer's report read and accepted.

Judie thanked all who served funerals. Coffee hours and door offerings.

OLD BUSINESS: remember your caring sisters and brothers with thoughts, prayers and cards.

We served supper at The Village for those that are displaced by Waterville's flooding. They were appreciative for the hot supper meal and desserts.

NEW BUSINESS: On August 9th, 11-1pm, we will have our annual salad luncheon. Judie will call for salads. Kathy will call for bars. Judie and Linda will call for workers.

We motioned \$100 for Kaleb Schmidt. The Elders will take a door offering for Kaleb on July 14th. Cotta Guild will serve breakfast on July 28th for the voter's meeting. Linda, Kathy, Harold, Lila, Judie and Karen volunteered to serve.

VBS starts Sunday July 28th. Board of Ed has asked Cotta Guild for cookies. We decided all chocolate chip, 8 1/2 dozen needed. Volunteers are Judie, Linda, Cindy and Barb. Kathy will make gluten free Chocolate chip.

We sang Happy Birthday to Darlene and Linda.

Next meeting August 8th. After meeting we will set tables for the luncheon on Friday. LWML Fall Rally will be held here at St Paul.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted, Kathy Flogstad - Secretary

Mites for Missions: Our Cotta Guild supports missions near and far through the collection of our Mites for Missions donations. These mission projects are voted on at our Lutheran Women's Missionary League national and district conventions by the delegates. Thank you for your support of our Mites for Missions collection on the second Sunday of each month. Your donations may be placed in the mite boxes located at the church entrances. This is a list of the mission grants that were voted on and approved at the recent LWML MN South District Convention in Mankato.

2024-2026 Mission Grants

<u>Grant Name</u>	<u>Amount of Grant</u>
1. Food for Seminary Students - Concordia Theological Sem. (Fort Wayne, IN) Food Co-op	\$12,000
2. Minnesota South District Student Aid Scholarships	\$30,000
3. Support for Faith-Based Transitional Housing - The Dwelling Place (MN)	\$15,000
4. Generating a Jesus Generation - Martin Luther Jr/Sr High School (Northrop, MN)	\$18,000
5. Mission Outreach for the Communities of Austin and Brownsdale, MN	\$16,000
6. Computers for Bible Transition - Lutheran Bible Translators	\$17,000
7. Cornerstone Lutheran Hmong Church Plant - currently located at Concordia Univ., St. Paul	\$20,000
8. Knowing Christ's Love Amid Visual Darkness - Lutheran Braille Workers	\$15,000
9. Ministry Scholarships for Shepherd's Canyon Retreats - Shepherd's Canyon (Arizona)	\$18,000
10. Bibles and Catechisms for Haitian Students - Lutheran Mission Association	\$10,000
11. Nigerian Seminary Tuition Assistance - Jonathan Ekong Memorial Seminary (Nigeria)	\$16,000
12. GenConnect: Second Generation Mission Outreach - St. Michael's (Bloomington, MN) - tied partial	\$7,750
12. Theological Training for Hmong Leaders in Southeast Asian - Hmong International Mission - tied partial	\$7,750
District Totals	\$202,500
25% mites to National	\$ 67,500
2024-2026 Mission Grant Goal	\$270,000



LWML will be putting out a mite box on the 2nd Sunday of each month to collect mites for missions' projects. Thank you for your support on this project.

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Are you in need of transportation to appointments or to the store??
Are you able to drive someone to an appointment or to the store??
If you fit into either of these categories, please call the church office so, we can help you coordinate a driver.

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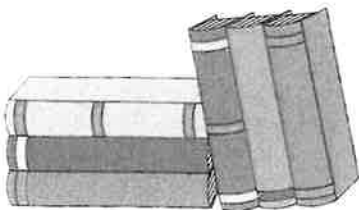
The Quilters will begin meeting again on Tuesday September 3rd, 2024 at 1pm. If you have the time and talent to share, or wish to learn how to quilt with a group of wonderful, fun loving individuals please contact Donna Hildebrandt. Everyone is welcome!!!

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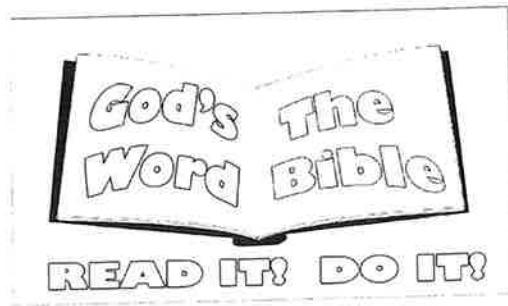


Please remember to mark on your offering envelope if you wish to give to any area of the church besides the general fund. Some options are: Church Improvements, Caring fund, Scholarships, Mission Trips, Memorial Fund, Pastors Discretionary Fund or the Organ Repair Fund.

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Remember to stop and check out library. Find a book to take home, or pull up a chair and relax with a cup of coffee !!!



Our Prayer Team: continues to meet on Monday mornings from 10a-11 am to pray for what God is doing here at St. Paul Lutheran, for those with health concerns, and for all matters on our hearts. You're welcome to join us!

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY: Will meet on August 4th and 18th at 9:30 am! Everyone is welcome to join us.

BIBLE BREAKFAST: Meets every Thursday at 6:00 am at Jonnie Beans

ADULT BIBLE STUDY: Meets every Sunday morning at 10:30 am in the Parish Hall

YOUTH GROUP: Watch for more info.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Every Sunday morning starting September 8th at 10:15 am



FAMOUS WORDS FROM OUR CHURCH PRESIDENT:

An acquaintance of mine who is a physician told this story about her then four-year-old daughter. On the way to preschool, the doctor had left her stethoscope on the car seat, and her little girl picked it up and began playing with it. Be still, my heart, thought my friend, my daughter wants to follow in my footsteps! Then the child spoke into the instrument:

"Welcome to McDonald's. May I take your order?"

POLKA SERVICE & MEAL



Saturday September 7th, 2024 at 5:00 pm

St Paul Lutheran Church

314 - 4th Ave NE

Waseca, MN 56093

A meal will follow the service in the fellowship hall and everyone is welcome! Bring your family, friends, and neighbors!

^ Handicap accessible door & elevator at west entrance ^

Music by:

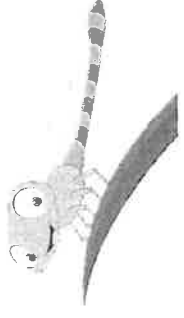
Chuck Thiel & The Jolly Ramblers

Menu: Broasted Chicken Dinner

Meal Time: Following the Service

Meal Cost: \$10.00 per person

Pre – sale Meal tickets will be on sale beginning Sunday August 5th before and after church through 5:00 pm the day of the service. For Advance meal tickets, contact the church office at 835-2647 or Judie Waters at 507-521-0687.



August 2024

St. Paul Lutheran Church – Waseca

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1. 6:00 am Bible study @ Johnnie Bean	2.	3.
4. 9:00 am Divine Service 10:15 am Bible Study	5. 10:00 am Prayer Team Mtg 11:30 am Education	6. 6:00 pm Elders 6:00pm Stewardship	7. 9:30am Women's Bible 7pm Evang. & Trustee	8. 6:00 am Bible study @ Johnnie Bean 1:00 pm Cotta Guild	9. 11am – 1pm Community Salad Luncheon	10.
11. 9:00 am Divine Service 10:15 am Bible Study	12. 10:00 am Prayer Team	13.	14.	15. 6:00 am Bible study @ Johnnie Bean	16. 5p-7p Hot Beef Drive Thru	17.
18. 9:00 am Divine Service 10:15 am Bible Study	19. 10:00 am Prayer Team 6:00 pm NSC Board News Letter Articles Due	20.	21. 9:30am Women's Bible 6 pm Confirmation Parent Meeting grades 6 th -8 th	22. 6:00 am Bible Study @ Johnnie Bean	23.	24.
25. 9am Divine Service 10:15am Bible Study	26. 10:00 am Prayer Team	27.	28. Noon 29er's @ 11:30am at Pizza Ranch	29. 6:00 am Bible Study @ Johnnie Bean	30.	31.

