

the St. Paul
SEED PACKET
your monthly guide to
sowing the seed of relationship

Monthly Highlights for February

- ✚ Valentine's Day – February 14
- ✚ Ash Wednesday Service – February 14 – 7 PM
Lenten Supper: Served from 5:30-6:45 PM
- ✚ President's Day – February 19
Church Office Closed – No School
- ✚ Lenten Midweek Worship Services:
Each Wednesday (*February 21 – March 21*) – 7 PM
Lenten Suppers: Served from 5:30-6:45 PM



**At St. Paul, we C.A.R.E. – We are
“Cultivating Awesome Relationships for Eternity!”
And, one way we do that is by
“Personalizing a Christ-Centered Education that Develops the Whole Child.”**

THY WILL BE DONE

Dear Christian Friends!

“Not as I will, but as You will,” Jesus prayed to His Father the night before He went to the cross for our salvation. And, that will also be our prayer in this upcoming season of Lent as we seek to do God’s will in our lives, as we draw near to the observance of Christ’s suffering, death and resurrection during Holy Week.

Each of our mid-week services (Wednesdays, starting on February 14; then also Maundy Thursday on March 29) will focus on a different aspect of God’s will at work among us ... through the insight of different Biblical characters who will guide us in following our Lord’s will more nearly day-by-day. We will be seeing our fellow members bring these characters to us in monologues; and we will each have the opportunity to dig deeper into the character each week in a series of discussion questions to reflect upon at home.

Our themes will be:

Ash Wednesday – February 14
Abraham: “God’s Will and God’s Promise” (Hebrews 11:17)
Week I – February 21
Moses: “God’s Will and My Inadequacy” (Exodus 4:13)
Week II – February 28
David: “God’s Will and My Dreams” (II Samuel 7:21)
Week III – March 7
Mary: “God’s Will and My Identity” (Luke 1:38)
Week IV – March 14
Paul: “God’s will and My Worldview” (Acts 9:9)
Week V – March 21
Lydia: “God’s Will and My Response” (Acts 16:14)
Maundy Thursday – March 29
Solomon (no, not that one!): “God’s Will and Joyful Service” (John 15:11)

In addition to these special midweek worship services, we will also be focusing on the Biblical character of Samson in a special 4-part sermon series starting on February 18. Just two days prior to that – Friday, February 16 – you will have the opportunity to see the new motion-picture release of “Samson” in a nearby theater. This special series will also include a Bible Study in my Adult Bible Class those same four Sunday mornings. Using video-clips from the movie, we will explore the following themes from the movie:

February 18: “God’s Purposes and Promises Never Fail”
February 25: “Unguarded Strength Becomes a Weakness”
March 4: “Untangling the Strands of Bitterness”
March 11: “God’s Sovereignty in Unattached and His Gifts Irrevocable”

My prayer is that our observance of Lent, and the study of the lives of Biblical heroes, will prepare us for living our own resurrected lives in the season of Easter ... which, is in reality, the rest of our lives!

Blessings,





Principally Speaking

We are off to a great start for 2018. Our school community has been putting forth an outstanding effort in “personalizing a Christ-Centered education that develops the whole child” here at St. Paul Lutheran School.

I thank God for the wonderful people He has placed here at our school. Our staff is continuing to work on our Need Assessments for the KESA (A Systems Approach to Accreditation) as-well-as striving to meet the individual needs of their students.

The SITE Council has met again and worked diligently on our school compact for the Title programs. Once completed, they will present this to the Building Leadership Team (staff) and the School Ministry Team for their input/approval after their next meeting.

Our PTL (Parent-Teacher League) has planned family activities for each month of this year. We would love for any of our church family to join us during these school activities.

I thank our Heavenly Father for all of the individuals that help to make this a great place for learning.

Blessings,

Pamela Robinson

Principal ☩





An Update From Our President

There is nothing quite like a crackling fire and a warm blanket to snuggle under while watching the snow fall from the sky, or soft rains and lush green landscapes that usher in spring. Perhaps a cup of coffee and a good book are inviting to you; holding a swaddled newborn while she sleeps in your arms; or, lounging on your deck while gazing at the sun as it sinks into the horizon. These times and places seem cozy and inviting to me. *What do you find cozy and inviting?*

As I shared last month, St. Paul will have a visioning session later this year and I want you to start thinking about what we do that gives you that cozy feeling; and what we may want to do differently, things that are currently discouraging to you. Cozy and Discouraging. We will explore these feelings and see how they fit into your experiences at St. Paul Lutheran Church & School. This is the beginning of a journey we will take together as we explore who we are, and who we can be, as individuals and as a congregation.

When you think of things that are inviting – things that don't require much energy on your part – what comes to mind? What do you find inviting at church or school? What feels like you are slipping into your nice, comfortable place ... a place or time of peace where no one challenges you?

What do you find stressful or discouraging? Are there things you find challenging. Challenges can be rewarding or not. Challenges always take us out of our comfort zone, out of our cozy place. What is it that you find challenging, yet not rewarding. What is it that you would like to change but feel powerless to do so? It is like a student sitting in the classroom with the answer and the teacher calls on someone else. You know what to do but no one asks you. Or, the time your friend needed help but chose to struggle through it themselves and didn't ask – you were ready, willing, and able ... but no one invited you to be a part of the event.

Please take time to prayerfully consider what feels cozy to you about St. Paul. What feels good and right. Then, take some time to consider what is discouraging to you. What would you like to change; what do you wish was different.

Once you have taken time to consider your answers, please complete the survey found on the following page and return it to one of the boxes located at the church or school. This survey is for all ages; for everyone who has interactions with St. Paul. If you turn in one survey and think of additional information you would like to share, fill out another survey. The collection boxes will remain in each location until the end of the month. If it is more convenient, you may share your information via email at office@splcs.org. Survey results will be shared in a subsequent newsletter.

In Service to Christ,

Janice Denney
President ✝

This month, please consider two things: what at St. Paul makes you feel cozy; and, what makes you feel discouraged? Please share your thoughts, and return this survey to either the Church or School Offices (there is a collection box in both locations); or you may mail it, to: 320 N. 7th St.; or send it by email, to: office@splcs.org.

COZY:

DISCOURAGED:

Please mark all associations that apply to you:

Member Pre-K

Non-Member Pre-K

Member K-8

Non-Member K-8

Male 0-25 years young

Female 0-25 years young

Male 26-55 years young

Female 26-55 years young

Male 56+ years young

Female 56+ years young

Other, please indicate: _____

Name: _____

Paul's Buffet

We want to take this time to share some recent statistics and, more importantly, to thank everyone involved in making Paul's Buffet possible every month ... and twice a month two times a year.

The last four months of 2017 went as follows:

- September: we served 625 meals of ham sandwiches with a bag of chips, fruit cup and cookies.
- October: we served 712 meals of shepherd's pie, bread, butter and dessert.
- November: we served 675 meals of chicken with noodles and vegetables casserole, bread, butter and dessert
- December: we served 597 meals of shepherds pie, bread, butter and dessert

That's a total of 2609 meals in four months (not counting the 7th Street Feast).

Each month we receive commodities from the State that are used in helping prepare the meals. It can range from ground beef, to lamb, to canned vegetables, fruit, shelf-stable milk and fruit drink products. Plus, each month, Trinity Lutheran Church provides desserts for the meal. Our average meal cost for those four months was thirty-one cents per plate. That's possible due to donations from St Paul Lutheran members. We have also used money from Thrivent Action Team cards.

Once again, we say THANK YOU for your past and future prayers, and for being the donors and volunteers that make the meal possible so we can make a difference one, and sometimes two, Saturdays a month along with the other churches in town.

Kathy Johnson – Del Housworth – Joey Denney ☩



To our St. Paul family,

Thanks for your smiles, hugs, tears, thoughts, words of comfort, cards and prayers during Janice's mom's recent illness and subsequent death. Your love and show of support for all of us made this difficult time easier.

Thanks also to whoever provided the "When God Calls Me Home" form that is available in the hallway leading to Pastor Ed's office. This document was valuable during the short time we had to plan a funeral. No matter your age, please consider filling one out to help your family in case of unforeseen circumstances.

– Joey, Janice, Mike & Michelle Denney ☩

St. Paul Lutheran Church & School

7th St. (from Miami to Osage), Leavenworth, KS 66048
(913) 682-0387 Church, (913) 682-5553 School
(913) 682-1139 Church Fax
Business e-mail: office@splcs.org
Web Page: www.stpaul-lcms.org



OFFICE HOURS

Church Office: Mon. – Fri., 8 AM – 3 PM
School Office: Mon. – Fri. 7:45 AM – 3:45 PM

HOURS OF WORSHIP & STUDY

Sunday Morning Worship, 8:00 & 10:30
Sunday Bible Study & Sunday School, 9:15

* For Small Group Schedule, call Church Office

Rev. Ed Mease, Sr. Pastor
Rev. Kenton Rohrberg, Visitation Pastor
Pamela Robinson, Principal
Dawn Booth, Church Secretary
Chyza Nelson, School Secretary
Angie Harper, Accountant
Stacy Veneziano, Admissions Coordinator
Kayla Moritz, Extended Care Director
Tim Summers, Kid's Connection Site Mgr.
Matthew Denney, Church Custodian
Jennifer Miller & Danny Roemer, School Custodians
Michelle Denney, Worship Tech
Daniel Mease, Webmaster

Teachers

Paula Cole	Sally Niemann
Becky Kenton	Julie Redfern
Suzie Lawson	Kimberly Stiansen
	Susan Wells

Aides

Jessica Chartier	Jill Gau
Monica Collins	Karen Jessup
Chancia Fairley	Sarajo Mance
Sierah Flack	Stacy Veneziano

MINISTRY DIRECTORS

President: Janice Denney
Vice President: Mark Klotz

Treasurer: Steve Fruechtenicht, Secretary: Barbara Regnier

At-Large Ministry Directors:

Rhonda Crute, Ed Dane, Del Housworth,
Vanda McGraw, Teri vonSeggern

Member Care Ministry Team

Velma Bass, Alan & Maggie Beisert,
Fred & Darlene Berg, Gwen Erzen, Lynn Genter,
Brenda Goebel, Margaret Hanawalt, Virginia Harth,
Janet Jackson-Knight, Pat King, Becca Mease,
Cheryl Orlovski, Tom Orlovski, Mary Rogers,
Angie Schwalm, Roxie Summers & Pastor Ed



PAUL'S BUFFET VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED

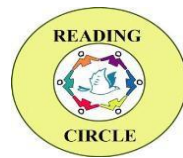
February 17 & March 17
Sign-up sheets are in the
Information Center. ☩



*Life Quotes
from
Lutherans
For Life*

“So marriage is a profoundly unique thing that is strengthened by years of shared experiences, trials, triumphs, challenges and victories. The oneness of marriage is why Grandpa can start a sentence and Grandma can finish it. It's why when she cries, he tastes the salt. It's her knowing what is wrong without him speaking a word. It's two lives becoming one. It takes time, effort, sweat and tenacity. But the rewards are like none other on earth.” *Rev. Daniel Domke, Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church, Huron, South Dakota – A “Life Quote” from Lutherans For Life.*
www.lutheransforlife.org ☩





A teenage girl is missing. Is your daughter involved, or is she next? Your daughter is in danger. But can you trust her? Those are the questions in “Saving Sophie” (by Sam Carrington), a taut psychological thriller, and our book for February. When Karen Finch’s 17-year-old daughter Sophie arrives home after a night out, drunk and accompanied by police officers, no one is smiling the morning after. But Sophie remembers nothing about how she got into such a state. Twelve hours later, Sophie’s friend Amy has still not returned home. Then the body of a young woman is found. Karen is sure that Sophie knows more than she is letting on. But Karen has her own demons to fight. She struggles to go beyond her own door without a panic attack. As she becomes convinced that Sophie is not only involved but also in danger, Karen must confront her own anxieties to stop whoever killed one young girl moving on to another – Sophie.

Paris, July 1942: Sarah, a 10 year-old girl, is brutally arrested with her family by the French police, but not before she locks her younger brother in a cupboard in the family’s apartment, thinking she will be back within a few hours.

Paris, May 2002: journalist Julia Jarmond is asked to write an article about this black time in France’s past. Through her investigation, she stumbles onto a trail of long-hidden family secrets that connect her to Sarah. Julia finds herself compelled to retrace the girl’s ordeal – as she probes, she begins to question her own place in France, and to reevaluate her marriage and her life.

For March, Tatiana de Rosnay authors “Sarah’s Key,” a brilliantly subtle, compelling portrait of France under occupation and reveals the taboos and silence that surround this painful episode.

In April, we will read “The Snow Child” (by Eowyn Ivey). It’s Alaska, 1920: a brutal place to homestead, and especially tough for recent arrivals Jack & Mabel. Childless, they are drifting apart – he, breaking under the weight of the work of the farm; she, crumbling from loneliness and despair. In a moment of levity during the season’s first snowfall, they build a child out of snow. The next morning the snow child is gone ... but they glimpse a young, blonde-haired girl running through the trees.

This little girl, who calls herself Faina, seems to be a child of the woods. She hunts with a red fox at her side, skims lightly across the snow, and somehow survives alone in the Alaskan wilderness. As Jack & Mabel struggle to understand this child who could have stepped from the pages of a fairy tale, they come to love her as their own daughter. But in this beautiful, violent place, things are rarely as they appear, and what they eventually learn about Faina will transform all of them.

The Reading Circle meets at 10 AM the **2nd Saturday** of each month (except December) at the Kansas Country Store, 728 Cherokee St., in Leavenworth. *Questions? Book suggestions? Contact Becca Mease (547-0763; rmease@kc.rr.com).* †

STEWARDSHIP IN REVIEW

Date	Worship Attendance	Sunday School/Bible Study Attendance	Offerings
12-24-2017	247	NA	5951.65
12-31-2017	72	NA	3629.60
1-7-2018	121	11/25	10199.60
1-14-2018	90	12/15	2712.60
1-21-2018	114	NA/22	18074.20

A complete Treasurer’s Report is available from the Church Office.

ARE YOU READY to join a Small Group Bible Study? Are you ready to just attend one for a while to see if it's a good idea for you? You are cordially invited to join the Tuesday Night Group (Bass Division) in February: we'll meet in the Lower-Level Conference Room on three Tuesdays (13, 20, 27) at 6 PM. We'll be studying "Images of the Spirit" from both Old and New Testament: Wind/Breath, Counselor, and Fire. Giver of Gifts will be studied on March 6. For more information, call leader Velma at 682-8942.



Northeast Kansas/Leavenworth

NAMI Northeast Kansas/Leavenworth is a NAMI Affiliate of the National Alliance on Mental Illness. NAMI is the nation's largest grass roots mental health organization dedicated to building better lives for the millions of Americans affected by mental illness. NAMI advocates for access to services, treatments, support and research and it is steadfast in its commitment to raising awareness and building a community of hope for all those in need.

For 25 years, our NAMI Northeast Kansas/Leavenworth organization has provided free education, support and advocacy for individuals living with mental illness and their families and friends supporting them, within our community.

The next Family-to-Family course begins Monday, February 19 – the course and materials are provided at no cost to participants. Each class is limited to 25 and advance registration is required (you must be 18). The classes run once a week for 12 consecutive weeks. Registration can be done online at: www.naminekl.com; by email at: namilvn@yahoo.com; or by mail at: NAMI Northeast Kansas/Leavenworth, PO Box 284, Linwood, KS 66052; or by calling: 913-683-4571.

Education, Training And Programs		
Program	Dates	Location
NAMI Family-to-Family	02/19/2018 – 05/07/2018 Mondays – 6:30-9:30 PM	1013 Pottawatomie Leavenworth 66048
NAMI Family Support Group	2 nd & Last Tuesday of the Month – 6:30-8:30 PM	1013 Pottawatomie Leavenworth 66048
NAMI Connection	2 nd & Last Tuesday of the month – 6:30 PM	1013 Pottawatomie Leavenworth 66048



Leavenworth County Child Abuse Prevention Council
presents a FREE training with 2 CEU's provided:

Keeping Kids Safe - Mandated Reporter Training

(including recognizing & preventing abusive head trauma)

When: February 15, 2018

Time 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Location: The Guidance Center

500 Limit Street, Leavenworth

Cost: Training is FREE...RSVP

requested

E-mail LvCAPC@gmail.com or

call Margaret at 913-651-2765

2 CEU's provided



Program Description: This workshop includes information on risks and protective factors related to child abuse/neglect, definitions, and signs of abuse/neglect, recognizing signs of abusive head trauma and strategies to prevent it, as well as understanding the role of mandated reporters and the process for making reports. Due to the link between animal maltreatment and child abuse/neglect, the training will also discuss recognizing and reporting suspected animal abuse/neglect.

Presented By: Lisa Gresham, LBSW, DCF
Alonda Forde-Harris, LBSW, Adult Protective

Services

Michelle Westfall, Leavenworth County EMS
Sgt. Jeff Adams, Leavenworth County Sheriff's Patrol
Crystal Swann Blackdeer, LV County Humane
Society, Inc.

Suggested attendees: Mandated Reporters and any individual who cares about protecting children from abuse and neglect to include but not limited to: childcare providers, teachers, employees working in child educational institutions, firefighters, EMS personnel, law enforcement officers, juvenile intake and assessment workers, individuals licensed to practice the healing arts, dentists, and optometrists, nurses; administrative personnel of medical

Easter Offering

Again this year, you will have the opportunity to order and purchase Easter Lilies through our Ladies Auxiliary. The lilies will be placed for you in the Sanctuary on Easter Sunday and may be picked-up after the late service.

We'll need to have an idea about the number of plants to order as-soon-as possible so that we can be guaranteed the number of plants we will need. We'd like to ask you to fill out this form and place it in the offering plate, give it to an usher, or drop it off in the Church Office no later than Sunday, March 25. Payment also needs to be made by that same date by placing the total due (# of plants X \$8.00 – either cash, or check payable to the **St. Paul Book Store** (NOT the church) in your regular stewardship envelope – marking it “Easter Lilies.” Payment may also be sent to the Church Office. If you have any questions, please contact: the Church Office, 913-682-0387; or Laura Elkins, 913-351-3644.



An insert will appear in the Easter Sunday Worship Folders indicating those people who donated plants and the reason the plants are given. ✚

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

NUMBER OF PLANTS: _____ X \$8.00 = _____

Please specify below the reason for which the plant is given. You may indicate “GIVEN IN MEMORY OF” or “GIVEN IN THANKSGIVING FOR”, etc.

News from our Ladies Aid – Lutheran Women’s Missionary League

IF the weather doesn't freeze us out, Ladies Aid is going to meet on Wednesday, February 7, at 12:30 PM, in the Church Basement for a Luncheon Meeting. Soup will be hot, crackers will be crisp, bread will be warm, cheese will be tangy, and Sharon Adams will fix some kind of *heart-y dessert* in honor of our best Valentine, Jesus.

We'll get back into our study of Martin Luther with "The Movement – 1." Roll Call will be answered with a verse about food or eating. Our annual \$10 membership donation will be received, as will Mites for Missions and support for our LeadAChild, Jennifer, in Guatemala.

For your calendar: CrossRoads Zone Spring Event will be on Saturday, April 7; and LWML Kansas District will meet in convention in Hutchinson on April 20-22.

Remember: if the weather seems *iffy*, call either the Church Office (682-0387) or President Velma (682-8942) to see whether or not we'll be meeting. Safety is a primary concern for us with the recent December/January ice and cold! ☩

Dear Pastor Mease (& Members of St. Paul),

As Immaculate Conception/St. Joseph Catholic Parish has completed its community meal ministry for 2017, we would like to thank your congregation for sharing its thoughts and experience with us in regard to this program, and also for allowing us to participate in your Thanksgiving Day community meal effort.

A special thanks goes to Joey Denney for his tireless work. What a great example of a Christian attitude does he possess!

Quite frankly, our efforts to reach out to others in our community were somewhat dormant until your congregation members introduced us to this ministry.

We are truly blessed to have you as our neighbors. Again, thanks so much and may God bless.

Sincerely,

Jerry & Mitzie Frietchen

Immaculate Conception/St. Joseph Community Meal Co-Chairs. ☩

St. Paul Lutheran,

Cheryl and I wish to thank St. Paul for helping us by covering the cost of having two trees cut down and three others being trimmed. Your thoughtfulness means a great deal.

God's Blessings,

Cheryl & Tom Orlovski ☩



STEPHEN MINISTRY

Stephen Ministry has been a part of St. Paul Lutheran for about twenty years now. We currently have six active Stephen Ministers in our church ... and a number of trained “retired” Stephen Ministers (people who have gone through the many hours of training, but who no longer actively serve as Stephen Ministers). I specifically used the word “actively” in the last sentence, because I believe that these people still use the training they received from Stephen Ministry in their everyday lives. We also have trained Stephen Ministers who have moved on to other churches and also some who have moved on to their heavenly home.

What a blessing the Stephen Ministers have been – and still are – to those who have received care over the past twenty years! Having someone to listen when one has problems weighing down the spirit can make a world of difference. There are many situations during which a person could benefit from having their own Stephen Minister: illness, loss of a job, family difficulties, death of a loved one, life stresses, etc. Stephen Ministers are trained to listen without judging or giving advice. We just want to “be there” to encourage and support a person during a difficult time.

We encourage you to seek out the help of a Stephen Minister to help you through a difficult time you may be experiencing. The Stephen Ministers wear their blue name tags on Sunday mornings to assist you in identifying them. Feel free to ask any of the Stephen Ministers about the blessings they have received in their own training and in serving as a Stephen Minister. Each Sunday, after each service, you can find a Stephen Minister in the front of church ready to pray with you – or ready to answer your questions about Stephen Ministry. Prayer is an important part of Stephen Ministry: We pray for and with our care receivers; we pray for each other in our ministry; and we keep members of the congregation in our own personal prayers.

If you have questions – either about receiving the help of a Stephen Minister ... or about how to be trained as a Stephen Minister – please contact Pastor Ed (913-758-7624; pastor@splcs.org), or one of our Leaders:

Helen Genter (913-775-0710; lgenter63@gmail.com);
Eric Rathburn (913-221-2411; rathburneric@gmail.com).

Our Stephen Ministers currently serving (besides the Leaders) are: Velma Bass, Pam Floetke, Lynn Genter, and Margaret Hanawalt. Thank you to each of them!

Please keep our Stephen Ministers and Leaders in your prayers, as-well-as their care receivers. Since confidentiality is essential in Stephen Ministry, names of care receivers are not known to you – or to other Stephen Ministers – but God will know who you are praying for when you pray for the “Care Receivers” who are being served. May God bless and keep you ... and encourage you to reach out to others. ☩

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

1	Craig Hochard Vicki Wolters	14	Mitchell Denney Heather Niemann	21	Allison Bergman Caryle Carr
2	Chyza Nelson Barbara Regnier	15	Randy Tague Andrew Tucker		Jake Eskina Benjamin Grace
3	Ray Hoppe, Sr. Heather Klotz		Christian Tucker Tim Wells		Becca Mease Hannah Wolters
5	John Allen	16	Art Burre	22	Justin Kichler
6	John Allen, Jr. Kathy Johnson		Eleanor Denney Jeff Monroe	23	Joseph Claire
7	Kim Schroyer Gage Unger	17	John Peeler	24	Ava Seeler
8	Mike Denney Joan Nance Bryce Dane	18 19	Gene Webber Gayle Grace Sophia Hyde-Lizardi	25 26	Cathenry David Collins Matthew Driskell
9	Brenda Goebel		Andrea Loewenstein Evan Marshall	27	Lindsey Norris Nancy Denney
10	Will Foster Billy Wells	20	Paisley Denney Martha Wilk	28	Michelle Hopkins Fred Polk
13	Caleb Knueven				Darlene Sullins

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES



5	Eric & Angela Theel Willie & Mindy Williams
11	Matt & Jessica Waymire
12	John & Evie Stigmire
14	Robert & Audrey Harris
15	Steve & Judi Camp
24	Terry & Kelly Norton

St. Paul Lutheran Church & School

311 N. 7th (@ Miami) Street
Leavenworth, KS 66048-1994
(913) 682-0387 – Church
(913) 682-5553 – School
(913) 682-5583 – Daycare

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



**WORSHIP
WITH
US** 

Sunday Worship Schedule at St. Paul

- * 8:00 AM – Liturgical Service
- * 9:15 AM – Sunday School
& Bible Classes
- * 10:30 AM – Prayer & Praise Service

Communion Served 1st & 3rd Sundays of each Month

Adult-Staffed Nursery provided!

FEBRUARY 2018