

Announcements for Sunday, March 11, 2018

As we draw close to God in worship, let us also draw close to others in love and friendship. Pray earnestly, sing joyously, listen intently and greet one another sincerely.

To our guests, we extend our warmest greetings to you and pray that God will bless you as you visit today. If you are searching for a Church home, we invite you to consider being a part of the St. Paul family. If you would like to know more about becoming a member, check the little box on the St. Paul Care Card or call the Church Office (815-963-5435). Please join us for worship again soon.

Serving in God's House at Central Site Today:

Ushers: 8:00am – Group 4

Preacher: Pastor Fisk

Elder: Mike Woolery

Serving in God's House at Northwest Site Today:

Preacher: Pastor Schwichtenberg **Ushers:** Group C

Elder: Jon Schuknecht

Altar Flowers are provided at the Central Site to the glory of God today by Aaron & Liz, Abby & Ben, in celebration of Lutheran Schools Week and for all the dedicated teachers!

Receiving Holy Communion - The Bible teaches us to receive communion after faithful preparation. If you recognize the true body and blood of Jesus in The Lord's Supper and sincerely come in repentance and share in fellowship with the teachings of our church, you are making proper preparation. Grape juice with a drop of wine in individual cups are available upon request. ***We also have gluten free wafers available for those who have are allergic to gluten products. Please inform the Pastor, an Elder or Usher prior to communion so we may make this readily available.*** If you have not communed at St. Paul before, please talk to the Pastor before Communion. God bless our sharing of His Supper.

Prayer for the Day is a daily devotional ministry. To hear a devotion recorded by Pastor Ciprys, please call the special Prayer for the Day phone number (815-963-7641) and then press 3 when the call is answered.

St. Paul Care Cards – We hope you will fill yours out so we can take note that you were here. Please pass the completed cards toward the inside aisle *during the offering* for pickup by the usher. At the same time, please also pass in any unused cards so that we might reuse them another time. They will be picked up afterward as the usher comes back from the altar.

The Semi-Annual Voters Meeting will be held on Sunday, March 18th, at the Northwest Site immediately after the 10:30 worship service. Please plan to attend this very important meeting.

Attention! NO Monday Morning Bible Class tomorrow morning.

Mid-Week Lenten Services continue Wednesday, March 14th. Our services will be 10:30am at the Central Site and 7:00pm at the Northwest Site.

POTLUCK LUNCHES WILL NOT be hosted by Ladies Guild after the 10:30am Lenten Services during February. The kitchen in the Undercroft is presently unusable, and until repairs and renovations are completed the Potluck Lunches **WILL NOT** take place.

Join us for Sunday School! All children Pre-K through High School are invited to attend Sunday School at the Central Site at 9:15am in the school band room. There will be three classes: **Pre-K - 5th** grade will be learning how the Holy Spirit leads the apostles - led by Mrs. Woolery and Mrs. Grocholl; **6th - 8th** grade will be studying Luther's Catechism and how it applies to their lives - led by Mr. Sautel; **High School** age students will have devotion time and a surprise!! – led by Mrs. Temple. Don't miss out on the four M's of Sunday School this year – MUSIC, MISSIONS, MEMORY VERSE AND MESSAGE!

Mission Accomplished!! Since September 2016, St. Paul's Sunday School children have collected \$30.00 to send to Africa for the purchase of mosquito nets to help fight the battle against malaria, \$50.00 to send to the American Bible Society to purchase 10 Bibles for our U.S. Troops, \$85.00 for Lutheran World Relief to purchase a piglet and chicken with chicks to send to families in need overseas, \$90.00 for Rockford's local Carpenter's Place to help those who are homeless and in need of job training, \$146.00 for Lutheran's in Africa who are building seminaries in Kenya, \$61.00 for Lutheran World Relief to purchase ducks and worms to improve gardens of families in need overseas, and canned goods plus \$43 to the Rockford Rescue Mission. NEXT UP....We are collecting offerings for the Orphan Grain Train. Thank you, kids, for your enthusiasm to share!!

Grief Share grief recovery seminar and support group meets weekly for approximately 13 weeks at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church in Rockford, Illinois beginning today, March 4, 2018. They meet from 1:00pm until 3:00pm. Mt. Olive is located at 2001 N. Alpine Rd. in Rockford. Grief Share features nationally recognized experts on grief recovery topics. Seminar sessions include: "Is This Normal?", "The Challenges of Grief", "Grief and Your Relationships", "Why?", and "Guilt and Anger". You can check out the Grief Share website at www.griefshare.org to find out more information about this very helpful program. For more information about the program at Mt. Olive or to let us know that you are coming, call (815) 399-3171.

Are you interested in being a St. Paul Bell Ringer? We have a small group that has been meeting on Sunday mornings during Sunday School time (9:15 am) in the band room. We are looking for a few more ringers High School age and up! No experience necessary! If you have questions, please see Liz Temple.

Keep saving your Box Tops! Look for collection boxes at both sites.

Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday Services will be held at the Central site at 9:00am. There will be no services at Northwest Site those two Sundays. The "Epistle" has the Easter Lily order form that says Central or NW. Please ignore the NW. All Easter Lilies will be at Central Site. Please get the word out to friends and family who may not be regular attendees. Thank you!

+ St. Paul School News +

St. Paul School News

Volunteer opportunities for St. Paul School!

Pre-School Aide

An hour or two a day(s) Monday - Friday
Help with snack time
Classroom Activities
Any other ways you can help!

Lunch Room Aide

Monday – Friday, Noon – 12:30pm.

Please contact Sue in the school office (815-965-3335) if you are willing to help with any of these opportunities.

Grandparent's and Special Friends Day was held this past Wednesday. There was a great turn-out and the kids did an amazing job entertaining all who attended. Thank you grandparents and special friends, teachers and the awesome St. Paul kids!

8:30am/10:30am

We Worshipped God Last Week: 63/93 = 156

We Worshipped God Last Year: 60/31/50=141

Sunday Morning Bible Class: 12

Sunday School: Central: 12

Monday Morning Bible Class: Cancelled

This Week at St. Paul

Sunday, March 11th Blood Pressure Screening-NW

8:00am – Worship (**Gymnasium**)

9:15am – Bible Class/Sunday School (Central Site)

10:30am –Worship/Communion (Northwest Site)

11:45am – Jr. Confirmation (Northwest Site)

Monday, March 12th

NO Monday Morning Bible Class (Undercroft)

Tuesday, March 13th

9:00am - Piecemakers (Northwest Site)

6:30pm – Battle of the Brains (Lutheran High School)

Wednesday, March 14th

7:00am – 8:15am – Men’s Devo & Prayer (Spring Garden-Loves Park)

10:30am – Lenten Worship (Central Site)

7:00pm – Lenten Worship (Northwest Site)

Thursday, March 15th

11:00am - Knitting Etc. (Northwest Site)

6:00pm – Chancel Choir (Northwest Site)

Sunday, March 18th

8:00am – Worship/Communion

9:15am – Bible Class/Sunday School (Central Site)

10:30am –Worship (Northwest Site)

11:45am – Voters Meeting (Northwest Site)

11:45am – Jr. Confirmation (Northwest Site)

+ Intercessions & Thanksgivings +
March 11th, 2018
Please remember in your prayers this week:

Those who celebrate Anniversaries: Dewey & Sharon Starnes, Ed & Char Klein, Mike & Cathy Braaten

Those with special needs: Bonnie Ciprys, Fran Dettman, Helen Dobratz, Bob & Jane Edmonds, Shirley France, Barb Henning, Gerry Hill, Joan Kern, Margie Mahon, Jan Pope, Dewey Starnes, Gene & Margaret Thornton

Those who grieve: The family of Anita Horst as they grieve her death. May the resurrection of Jesus Christ bring peace, hope and comfort to all who grieve.

Our members of the week: Joyce, Barb and Bruce Henning, Martin Hermeling, Daniel Hermeling, Stacie Hermeling, Lyle & Kathy Hill.

Our Shut-Ins: Helen Zahorik, Gene & Barb Simonson, Emil Hahn.

Our Service men & women: Zack Beck (Army), Christopher Dierking (Army), Levi Thies (Marines), Nathan Mallow (Air Force), Justin Hartenberger (Marines), Seth Best (Army), Nick Weidner (Marines), Kaylea Cortes (Air Force), Brittany Smith-Troxell (Illinois National Guard) and those serving at home and abroad along with their families who wait for their return.

Prayer Requests from the St. Paul Care Cards: For the unemployed and underemployed, continued healing & strength for baby Hope, baby Huntley, baby Ellie, Jennifer, Dewey, Tyler, Linda, Kelly, and all those suffering, for all with cancer, for those depressed, for our Country's leaders, the community housing options for special needs people, our church and school, family relationships, Jake, strong faith, employment, Miguel, the families of Lillian and Anita, blessings for St. Paul School as we move forward in our ministries, God's guidance for the church.

Prayer: – "O Lord, our God, the world is a perplexing place with the devil himself prowling like a roaring lion, seeking to devour us from every side. Even friends, neighbors and family can and do betray us at times. We at times do the same to You and them. Yet You are our faithful Lord, who never leaves or forsakes us. Your faithfulness is un failing, especially in that you sent Your own Son Jesus to become part of the chaos of this world to rescue us through His fully obedient life on our behalf, His sacrificial death on the cross in payment for our sin, and His victorious resurrection so that we can find our eternal deliverance in Him. Great is Thy Faithfulness, O Lord, our God! Keep us faithful in and to You. Amen."