



# St. Paul News

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JUNE

2025

## How do I maintain my faith in the summer months?

By Pastor Neil Wehmas

The summer months can be a difficult time for one to keep strong in their spiritual disciplines. The summer months bring summer camps, vacations, fairs, and many other events that make one's schedule very hectic. What can a person do to keep steadfast in this faith during these months? Here are a few points of advice.

### Attend Sunday Worship

The first and obvious practice, make sure you attend worship. Even if you are out of town. This can be done by watching services online. However, the best is always to worship in-person. God created us to be in communion with one another. So, when out-of-town, if possible find a local congregation. Visit <http://www.lcms.org/> and click on the locator link to find a church nearby.

Also, feel free to contact me and I would be willing to track down a congregation for you.

### Commit to a Devotional Life

Find a good devotional resource, and commit to following it. Of course there is the Congregation at Prayer, produced by our congregation. This works along with "The Whole Story". Also, consider making use of the Portals of Prayer. There are also many podcasts, such as the ones on kfuo.org that can be used as devotions. Be sure to set aside a time each day to do these devotions.

### Listen to Podcasts or Audio Books

Many of you will find yourselves on a long road-trip. Load up your smartphone or tablet with either a good podcast or a good audio book about the faith. I will always recommend *Issues Etc.* in this regard. There are also a number of good books to be found on Audible. For example, consider Flame's new book: "Because Jesus Taught It" or "Will the Real Jesus Please Stand Up?" by Matthew Richard. Pastor Richard's book is one I recently listened to and found quite interesting.

### Read a Good Book

Yes, indeed, find a good faith-based book to read. Consider reading or re-reading the Chronicles of Narnia or Lord of the Rings books. If you've never read it before, commit to reading Luther's Large Catechism. Or if you are looking for other suggestions, or a specific topic you'd like to study, let me know. I'd love to connect you with something to read.

### Keep Involved in the Church: Attend Bible Class

Attend a regular Bible study. At St. Paul Lutheran Church, we have a few regular Bible studies. We have a Bible class following Sunday worship. We also have Bible classes on Wednesday mornings at 9:30am at the church. Or join us at Subway on Thursdays at 6pm. Grab a sandwich or some cookies, and dive into God's word. These are opportunities to learn more, and spend time with fellow Christians.

### **Keep Involved in the Church: Serve**

Find ways to serve in the church. Consider ushering, walk in the Heritage Days parade, help with tech on Sunday morning worship, help with Vacation Bible School. There are opportunities to serve in the church, look for those opportunities. We are still as a congregation looking for someone to serve on the board of Evangelism and the board of missions.

### **Tell & Invite Someone**

Finally, tell people about Jesus. Invite them to attend worship with you. Especially consider inviting someone to worship WITH YOU at the Heritage Days service in the park. Invite someone to attend Bible study with you.

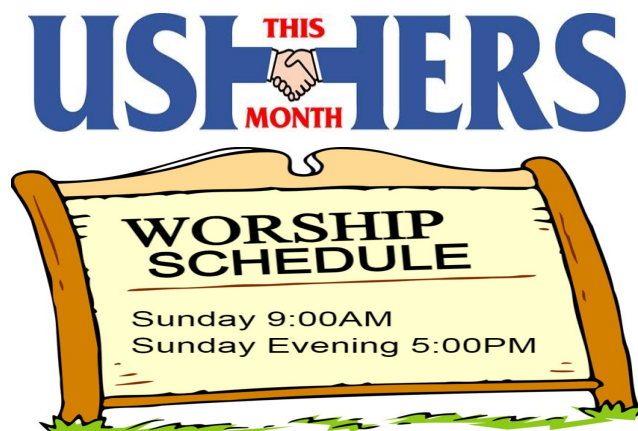
### **Red Letter Challenge**

You may recall we as a congregation took part in the Red Letter Challenge in the Fall of 2023. Consider going back to this book and taking on the challenge again. You may notice that it follows many of these same advices.

I pray that we all find a way to keep steadfast in the practice of our faith and spiritual discipline, even in the summer. This indeed can be a thing that we find ourselves neglecting in the summer, so I pray that these tips will help you through these months.

May it be a blessed and joyous summer for all of you. Remember and meditate upon the Jesus who is with you through even the summer months. (Bring along flat Jesus if it helps.)

In Christ,  
Pastor Neil Wehmas



**9:00AM Worship :**  
**Acolytes are listed on the calendar**

**COMMUNION ANNOUNCEMENT** we will now be adding Holy Communion on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of a month –

This month there is a 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday, but its our Outdoor Worship Service so please watch bulletin or Facebook, as to any changes for the Communion schedule

### About our Communion Practice

To our visitors and guests: In accordance with the apostolic command and in unity with the unbroken practice of the Church, St. Paul Lutheran practices Closed Communion. If you are not a member of a congregation in fellowship with the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod we kindly ask you to refrain from communing. We do so not to offend you, but because the Scriptures clearly teach that those communing together be unified in their confession of the Faith. In this Sacrament we are not only joined to Christ our Head who is present in His body and blood but are also knit together with one another as His Body, in which there should be no division of belief. Should you have questions or concerns about this Biblical and historic doctrine, please speak with our pastor. If this is your first time communing at St. Paul Lutheran Church, please speak with our pastor before the service. If certain factors prohibit you from partaking in regular wine, a non-alcoholic option is available in the center circle of each tray. **If not communing but desiring to receive a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest when Pastor approaches.**

**OFFERING BOXES** In order to help with the overall flow and length of the worship service. we will be collecting the offering via the offering boxes in the Narthex. The main wooden offering box will still be available on the Welcome Center, there will be boxes available by each door that enters the Sanctuary.

**WE ARE BRINGING BACK “ASK THE PASTOR”** which he will answer your questions on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month, see box on black table in the narthex by Sanctuary glass windows, to submit your questions.

**HYMN SING SUNDAYS**, there is a white box on the table in the Narthex for you to put in your hymn suggestions for Hymn Sing Sundays. We will keep you posted on which Sunday this will be .



**COMMUNITY BASKET DONATIONS for COMMUNITY BASKET DONATIONS FOR JUNE: Personal care items: soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, shampoo, conditioner, etc..** Place your donation in the shopping cart in the Narthex or hallway. Any items are appreciated as well, as they can always use donations. The Community Basket is open on Thursdays (except 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday), from 2:30-5:30PM **\*\*They can always use toilet paper, laundry soap, shampoo & conditioner, canned vegetables, canned fruits & canned soups. Mobile Food Pantry will be at the United Methodist Church in Holstein on June 19 from 4:30-5:30PM.** Its helpful to bring a laundry basket or container for your food items. Volunteers to help carry are always appreciated.

**VBS SNACK DONATIONS** we are looking for cookies, string cheese, mandarin oranges, apples, Sunbelt chocolate chip granola bars, fruit snacks, juice, we will update this list next week. You can also donate monetarily, a bucket is on the table in the narthex as well or the church office.

**SPECIAL OFFERING "For the 9am & 5pm service this weekend, as well as the 9am service on June 8th, we will be taking a special offering.** This offering will be for the gathering of the Iowa District West Convention. The funds raised will be used for repairs to Camp Okoboji. Last summer, they suffered much damage along the shoreline due to heavy rains. As they have kindly hosted the Iowa District West Convention for many years, it is appropriate for us to support this great ministry of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod--Iowa District West."

**The Whole Story is our Congregation as a group reading the Bible in a year.**

**Suggested Apps below if that is how you like to read the daily Bible readings and included in this newsletter, on the back of the June Calendar and a print out of the month of June daily readings will be on the Welcome Center**



When you post on your personal Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or Snapchat Use the #thewholestory25 and #stpaulidagrove



**FLAT JESUS** We encourage everyone (all ages) to take a Flat Jesus and carry Flat Jesus with you, keep him in your pocket, car, or at work, etc.. We also encourage you to share Flat Jesus with someone you know, grand kids, other adults. We also encourage you to have Flat Jesus with you as you read through the Bible.

Take him with you any time you're out having lunch, dinner, driving, etc..If you would like to take a picture of him by your Bible, Tablet, computer or at your lunch table, dinner table, or car, etc..Send in your pictures we would love to post them or share them on the screens, with our announcement slides [stpaulidagrove@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulidagrove@gmail.com)

## **WHEN ON VACATION.....**

When on vacation, be with us in spirit.

The rest of the summer, be with us in person.

# **NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING PARTICIPANTS**

## **Pancake Breakfast**



**National Youth Gathering participants will serve  
Pancakes and Sausage  
on Sunday, June 1, 2025, come and enjoy**

**FREE WILL OFFERING FUNDRAISER FOR  
NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING**

**This is the Youth's last fellowship breakfast til fall!**

### **MISSION CENTRAL EVENTS! MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

**Saturday, June 7 at 1:00PM, Rev. Gustavo and Ruth Maita Puerto Rico**

**Saturday, June 7 at 1:30PM, Becky Bartelt Taiwan**

**Saturday, June 14 at 1:00PM, Dale & Suzanne Kaster Czech Republic**

**Saturday, June 14 at 1:30PM, Barbara Rebentisch Taiwan**

**Saturday, June 21 at 1:00PM, Rev. J.P. Cima & family Cambodia.**

**Sunday, June 29 at 3:00PM, Rev. Ted Krey & family, Regional Director-Latin America**

**Sunday, July 6 at 9:00AM, Special Worship Service with Rev. Dr. Carl Hanson serving in Seoul, Korea**

**Tuesday, July 8 at 1:00PM Rev. Gerald & Heidi Paul Cayman Islands**

**Tuesday, July 22 at 1:00PM Andrew & Noel Schaff Taiwan**

**Saturday, July 26 at 1:00PM Rev. Michael Paul & Family Taiwan**

**Saturday, August 2 at 1:00PM Rev. Tyler McMiller & Family Italy**

**Monday, August 11 at 1:00PM John Wolf & Family East Africa**



## SOME OF YOUR OPTIONS FOR BIBLE STUDIES

**WEDNESDAY EARLY MORNING BIBLE CLASS** meets at 7:00AM Jimmy's

**WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS** meets from **9:30-10:30AM** in the Conference Room in the lower level.

**THURSDAY MORE THAN BREAD BIBLE STUDY** meets at 6:00PM at Subway, no Bible Study on Thursday, June 12

**SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS** join us in the Fellowship Hall starting at 10:15AM

## LWML LADIES BIBLE STUDY MAY



# Lutheran Women *in Mission*

**RUTH (2)** will meet on June 5 at Zimmy's at noon and meet at the church for Bible Study at 1:00PM. Linda BSL. We had 11 present for our May meeting.

**LOIS (3)** will meet on June in the Conference Room at 1:30PM. Judy S. will be hostess and Judy will be BSL.

**EUNICE (10)** will meet on June 5 at Willowdale Nursing Home, Battle Creek at 2:30PM. Karen will be hostess and Karen will be BSL. We had 7 members present for our April meeting.

**JOHANNA(12)** will meet on June 5 at 7:00PM, at the church Conference room, Karen L will be hostess, Ann will be BSL. We had 4 present at our May meeting.

**LWML BIBLE STUDY LEADER'S MEETING on Tuesday, June 17 at 1:00PM**

**LWML EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING on Tuesday, June 24 at 4:00PM**

[illegible]

**FUNERAL LUNCH SERVERS/ HELPERS :** We are checking with those that help with funeral luncheons and /or setting up prior to the funeral lunch either the day of or day before. As we continue to move forward with our list and helpers, our list is typically women, but if you are a man who would be willing to help please let the church office know. Also if you are thinking you have some limitations to your helping with funeral set up or serving please let the church office know and we will remove your name from the list, and if you are someone who is not been called or “on the list” please also let the church office know. Stop in or call 364-2918. Thank you to everyone who has helped in the past or is currently helping, we so appreciate your help.





# VBS

June 16-19, 2025      9:30-11:30AM

St. Paul Lutheran Church

100 7<sup>th</sup> St.    Ida Grove

Completed

4 year old preschool - 5<sup>th</sup> grades

Online Registration for VBS

<https://vbsmate.com/StPaulIdaGrove>

Paper registrations are available on a table in the narthex or  
look for in a weekly bulletin



# Transportation

R A L L T E R R A I N V E H I C L E N N E  
 C E L C Y C R O T O M G R D F C M M X L N  
 Z C J A K T M L M T Y Z L R R W V R B T A  
 K F T L Y A S C H O O L B U S K R G A H L  
 S N J O K L U X Y K L D W M J P M I L B P  
 C C F D P E L T C B C A R R I A G E L T R  
 D P O N J X M O O H T R T P C H J H O P I  
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 P L F G T T T G H T O I O X Z F F J N K W  
 O S G T P E R L G R T B R B R M C M B L L  
 M N C Y R A R B I F O H I L J N K M B V R  
 H O O R C A L R R N Z T C L I D T I L E L  
 P W M E Q D C W N T E R O T E F C P T K N  
 D M M O P P K F W Q U R A M T Y T P C E L  
 J O U N R J X T L I L O B R C M O U Z L Z  
 E B T A K X F K S O B K A L K C R F G C M  
 T I E C J A A E K R G I E X I T R W D Y Y  
 S L R T R Y S T I M N L T L J V C K N C K  
 K E B Z A H W A X H O V E R C R A F T I B  
 I T U K I S P A C E S H U T T L E L N R R  
 P Y S P K M A R T F J Y R R E F Z C X T Z

AIR BOAT	CAR	HOVER CRAFT	SCOOTER
AIRPLANE	CARRIAGE	JET LINER	SNOWMOBILE
ALL TERRAIN VEHICLE	CHAIR LIFT	JET SKI	SPACE SHUTTLE
AUTOMOBILE	COMMUTER BUS	KAYAK	TRAIN
BALLOON	CRUISE SHIP	MOPED	TRAM
BICYCLE	FERRY	MOTORCYCLE	TRICYCLE
BLIMP	GOLF CART	MOTORHOME	TROLLEY
BOAT	GONDOLA	RAFT	TRUCK
CANOE	HELICOPTER	SCHOOL BUS	