



St. Paul News

St. Paul Lutheran Church
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OCTOBER

2025

Pastors who've made a difference in my life.
Pastor Neil Wehmas

The month of October is Pastor's Appreciation month. Last year, another pastor had the idea of doing an article about the pastors who've influenced his life. I thought it was a good idea, but I had already written the October article. So for 2025, I will take up that opportunity.

I don't have much memory of the pastors from when my family lived in Minnesota, but the pastor who confirmed me was Pastor Bruce Linderman. Pastor Linderman was a pastor at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Ankeny for about 16 years. He had sort of a scowl that made you a little afraid to not be ready on your memory work and weekly quizzes. However, at the same time, I learned a lot from him through the years. He gave me a strong foundation.

During my high school years, St. Paul got an associate pastor named Edward Grimm. I really can't remember a lot about his preaching. But I remember how he was a genuinely nice guy. He regularly picked on me for my fanship of the Minnesota Vikings, while he was a Green Bay Packers fan. His daughter was in my grade, which gave an extra connection. It is while he was our pastor that I first was sensing a call into the Pastoral ministry. He was supportive of me in the journey that was beginning.

When I graduated from high school, I initially attended Des Moines Area Community College in Ankeny. My original plan was to be a sports journalist. I had dreams of getting paid to just talk about football. However, during that time, I got connected into a group known as "Impact". Impact was a college ministry of Saylorville Baptist Church. The college pastor was Pastor Lucas Bair. (He and his wife went to high school with my brother.) This Baptist pastor actually played a crucial role in my faith development. Conversations with him, jolted my faith out of its slumber. It is from conversations with him that I actually read the Bible for the first time (all of it). It is from conversations with him that I knew I wanted to be a pastor.

Through Concordia University Wisconsin, many of my professors challenged me in different ways and made me think of my faith in new ways. Dr. Maschke instilled in me a love of liturgical Lutheran worship. Dr. Paavola demonstrated story-driven preaching. Professor Mudge helped me limp through my Hebrew studies. Dr. Tomesch helped me to really learn Koine Greek.

At Seminary, my professors did their best to squash my pride. They were sure to show make me realize that I am not as smart as I think I am. Dr. Gibbs, Dr. Biermann, Dr. Hermann, Dr. Okamoto, Dr. Raabe, and others all gave me a deep knowledge and understanding of the scriptures and the Christian faith. Not to mention the many classmates (now pastors) who I lived, ate, studied, and debated with.

As a pastor, I have gotten to know and learned from many colleagues. Especially Pastor Richard Salcido as senior pastor here at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Ida Grove. I appreciated the

balance in style and work we provided for each other, and I am praying he is having a great retirement with Sue and his grandkids.

As October approaches, think of the pastors who have impacted you in your lives. Give thanks to God for them, and pray that new pastors would be raised up. Pray for the pastors who currently serve. Blessings on your October.

In Christ,

Pastor Neil Wehmas

Please note that there will be no Worship on Saturday, October 18th due to Pastor Wehmas attending the Jr High Youth Gathering.



WORSHIP ASSISTANTS NEEDED – USHERS, LECTORS, GREETERS: if you would like to help with our worship service in these various ways ushering especially Ushers since we are going to be passing the offering plate again, lector & greeters, **there is a sign up genius available on our Facebook page, a QR Code on the slide posted in the Narthex OR there are sign up sheets available in the narthex if you would prefer to sign up that way. Please prayerfully consider helping.**

BOARD OF HUMAN CARE is looking for volunteers to help with visiting shut in's, those in the nursing home, assisted living or other individuals.. If you are interested please let Synda Jepsen or Nancy Schoen know, there is a sign up sheet available on the narrow table in the narthex, please put your name and phone number down and they will contact you.

AUDIO VIDEO UPDATING/REPLACEMENT. If you would like to help with fundraising, you can donate to the Audio Video fund to help with the expenses of the updating.

Video Upgrade is in progress; We have begun to pull the cables for the video upgrade. Electronic Sound from Omaha is scheduled to be here the week of October 6th to start equipment installation. **The wiring to the old projectors must be removed to run the new cables. The screens will not be used October 5th. Depending on installation of the new equipment, the screens may not be used October 12, and the service may not be streamed.**

MISSION CENTRAL FALL CLEANING on Thursday, October 23 starting at 8:30AM, bring your own supplies and lunch will be provided.



Sunday School

Class from 10:15-11:15am

Children ages 4 yr old Preschool-12th grade

6th-8th - Middle School Youth Room

9th-12th - High School Youth Room



Cross Explorations Wednesdays,
at 4:00-5:15pm for 6th/7th/8th grades
and 4:00-5:00pm for 3rd-5th grade

MIDWEEK SNACKS NEEDED – A donation bucket is available if you would like to donate towards midweek snacks or another idea is a FoodPride gift card to help with the purchase of bread or buns, ham, hot dogs, cheese, ketchup and the kids like to have ice cream regularly and so this would be helpful in providing that. If you would like to purchase buckets of vanilla, or chocolate, caramel or strawberry syrups that would be awesome too.

We are looking for some bulk snack items: cheese its, gold fish crackers, and pretzels. Other requests are: beef sticks or summer sausage, choc. chip, oreo cookies have been a request or the bags of frozen cookies and we can bake them (suggest: chocolate chip or sugar cookies), Also would like string cheese, cutie oranges, apples (if you have an apple tree and would like to donate some). If you would like to provide snacks for a certain day or special occasion please let the church office know.

We are also due to snack options concerned about any allergies, if you could fill out the form at the church in the bulletin or let the church office know. Updated phone numbers would be helpful as well for emergencies, sickness or cancellations due to weather.

BOARD OF EDUCATION is looking for / in need of the positions:



A part time teacher / leader for the middle school 6th -8th for Sunday School 10:15-11:15AM.

Please let Tracy Johnson or Megan Wellendorf know if you are interested in helping.

Substitute Teachers or Superintendent for Wednesday from 4:00-5:00/5:15PM, if possible on Early Out days which will be right after school at 1:30-2:30PM., and also Sunday School, 10:15-11:15AM

There is a sign up sheet in the Narthex, if interested and indicate what you are interested in and your phone number OR let Tracy Johnson or Megan Wellendorf know.



CONFIRMATION PICTURES will be on **Wednesday, October 22** at **7:00PM**, and will also have a practice for Sunday.

CONFIRMATION will be on **Sunday, October 26** during the **9:00AM Worship service** and a reception hosted by current 8th grade Catechism class, will follow in the fellowship hall after the service.



The HighWay Sr High Youth (9th-12th)
Will meet Oct. 8 at 7:00PM @Moorehead Park



The MidWay Jr High Youth (6th-8th)
Will meet Oct. 8 from



JR HIGH YOUTH GATHERING (6TH -8TH GRADES) in Des Moines, October 18-19. For those that have registered please watch for emails with details.

Please note that there will be no Worship on Saturday, October 18th due to Pastor Wehmas attending the Jr High Youth Gathering.



The Skating is a free event for 6th - 12th grades, bring money for concessions

JR High and SR High Youth Pancake and Sausage Breakfast



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2025

SERVING IN FELLOWSHIP HALL FOLLOWING WORSHIP SERVICE

**Come and enjoy breakfast !
FREE WILL OFFERING
FUNDRAISER FOR YOUTH ACTIVITIES,
YEARLY GATHERINGS IN DES MOINES, & HIGHER THINGS**

**MISSION CENTRAL EVENTS!
MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

Saturday, November 22 at 1:00PM- Rev. Matthew Wood and Family working in Indonesia will give a presentation on their work

Saturday, December 20 at 1:00PM -Missionary Chelsea Irwin will present on her work in the Czech Republic



COMMUNITY BASKET DONATIONS for COMMUNITY BASKET DONATIONS FOR OCTOBER: Pasta: macaroni, spaghetti, or any dried pasta, mac & cheese, spaghetti sauce and any other related items. 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 3rd Thursday), from 2:30-5:30PM ****They can always use canned vegetables, canned fruits & canned soups, peanut butter, jelly, pancake mix and syrup. Also note: they can use outdated items that are within a year of expiration. Mobile Food Pantry will be at The Shed in Kiron on Thursday, October 16 from 4:30-5:30PM. Its helpful to bring a laundry basket or container for your food items.**

“THE WHOLE STORY” reading the Bible in a year for 2025 – get your monthly calendar for daily readings, **OCTOBER Reading Calendar available on the Welcome Center.** Also if you are wanting or needing previous months reading Calendar they are on the Welcome Center in the **RED FOLDER.**



FLAT JESUS We encourage everyone (all ages) to take a Flat Jesus and carry Flat Jesus with you. We also encourage you to share Flat Jesus with someone you know, grand kids, other adults. Take him with you any time you're out having lunch, dinner, driving, etc..



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



Holy Interruptions

Most of us are pretty good at planning—schedules, to-do lists, calendars filled to the brim. But what happens when God steps in with an unexpected detour?

Throughout Scripture, God often moved in the interruptions. Moses was tending sheep when he saw a burning bush. Mary was simply living her life when an angel appeared. Even Jesus was frequently “interrupted” by people seeking healing or hope—and He never turned them away. “Interruptible faith” is a

posture of openness. It’s saying, “Lord, here’s my plan—but I trust Yours more.” It means slowing down, paying attention, and being willing to let God rearrange our day for His greater purpose.

Proverbs 16:9 (NIV) reminds us, *“In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps.”* May we have the courage to let Him.

LIVING THROUGH LOSS, is a grief support group and educational program designed to help individuals work through the grieving process. If you or someone you know would benefit from this program, the Fall Session begins Monday, October 13 and will run for four consecutive Mondays from 10:30-11:30AM in the Horn Memorial Hospital Conference Center. Pre-registration is appreciated by calling 712-364-7311



Join the Praise Band!



High school students and adults — do you sing or play an instrument? **Come be part of our Praise Band!** Interested? Contact Tammy Hoffman 515-290-5167 or see us after the service.

Let’s worship together through music!

SOME OF YOUR OPTIONS FOR BIBLE STUDIES

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

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

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY join us in the Conference Room starting at 10:15AM

LWML LADIES BIBLE STUDY OCTOBER



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

LOIS (3) will meet on **October 2** in the Conference Room at 1:30PM. Janice will be hostess and Nancy will be BSL. We had 6 present at our September meeting.

EUNICE (10) will meet on **October 2** at Willowdale Nursing Home, Battle Creek at 2:30PM. Karen will be hostess and Corliss will be BSL. We did not meet for September

JOHANNA(12) will meet on **October 2** at 7:00PM, at the church Cecile will be hostess, Ann will be BSL. We had 7 present at our September meeting.

LARGE LWML MITE BOX that is on the table in the narthex will be highlighted and along with the Mission Mite of the month, on the second Sunday of each month

LWML SUNDAY will be Sunday, October 12th, the ladies will also be serving the Fellowship time following the Worship Service

LWML BIBLE STUDY LEADER'S MEETING on Tuesday, October 21 at 1:00PM

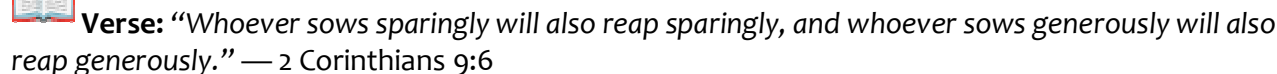
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MONTHLY NEWSLETTERS AND CALENDAR are always available to be picked up at the church in the narthex. If you would like to view online our website is www.stpaulig.org
If you would like it emailed to you please contact the church office, email us or fill out the “update our information form” Copies of the form to update information is available on the Welcome center and can be placed in the wooden offering box

HOSPITALIZATION REMINDER : if you are admitted to any hospital, please let us know or have a family member or a friend let Pastor Neil or the church office know, so we know you are there to visit, or would just want prayers from Pastor.

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"The harvest is not only about what we gather, but also about what we give. Stewardship means sowing generously so others may be blessed."



NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS GROUP – as you will see by the monthly calendar that the Narcotics anonymous group meets here twice a week. Thursday's at 6:00-7:00PM and Sunday's at 7:30-8:30PM. This group was started with the approval and encouragement of the County Attorney and Sheriff Wade Harriman, they have now been meeting here for 3 years. We are the only location in Ida County for this type of meeting. If you are in need of this type of meeting or know someone who does, the meeting time and days are listed on the monthly calendar and also you can contact the church office for further information or contact info. They meet in the Conference room area downstairs

If you are having a meeting or a Bible Study please let the church office know and we will pass along to them and they will move their meeting to another location of the church to accommodate your meeting, or you there is the fellowship hall or upstairs conference room to accommodate your meeting or Bible Study as well. We ask you to keep this group in your prayers.

[illegible]

PSALMS 91 WORD SEARCH

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

TEN THOUSAND	FALL	FOOT	EYES	REWARD
EVIL	LOVE	PLAGUE	ANSWER	ANGELS
NAME	TROUBLE	HONOR	SATISFY	SALVATION
HANDS	LONG	LIFE	THOUSAND	NOONDAY
DARKNESS	ARROW	TERROR	AFRAID	DELIVER
TRUST	FORTRESS	REFUGE	SECRET PLACE	DWELL