



St. Paul News

St. Paul Lutheran Church
100 7th St. Ida Grove, Iowa
712-364-2918

www.stpauliq.org

AUGUST

2026

Let us Read the Bible and the Book of Concord Together By Pastor Neil Wehmas

“This congregation acknowledges and accepts all the canonical books of the Old and New Testaments as the revealed and inerrant Word of God, verbally inspired, and acknowledges and accepts all the Confessional Writings of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, contained in the Book of Concord of the year 1580, to be the true and genuine exposition of the doctrines of the Bible. These Confessional Writings are the three Ecumenical Creeds, (Apostle, Nicene and Athanasian) the unaltered Augsburg Confession, the Apology of the Augsburg Confession, the Smalcald Articles, Luther’s Large and Small Catechisms and the Formula of Concord.”

These words are not words from some ancient document, rather these words are found in Article III of the constitution of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Ida Grove, Iowa. In fact, these words are found in the constitution of every church within the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod.

Yet, how many have read anything of the Book of Concord (beyond the Small Catechism)? How many are taking time to read the scriptures? My guess is that the percentage of Lutherans who have read the Book of Concord would be quite small.

It is for that reason, I am going to offer an opportunity for every member of this congregation to come together and read parts of the Lutheran Confessions (The Book of Concord) and the Scriptures together. We will read these words, and we will discuss these words.

I invite members of all ages of St. Paul Lutheran Church to a group very straight forwardly called, “Read the Bible & The Confessions with Pastor Neil”. We will meet every Thursday at 7pm in the Fellowship Hall.

I realize that Thursdays have a number of school activities, and therefore you may not be able to make it every week. That is okay, come when you can. There will still be plenty to learn. You might even miss several weeks in a row, or decide to join a few months after we’ve started. That is okay, you will still have opportunity to learn and grow in your faith.

I encourage high school youth and post-high school young adults to attend, as well as all our older members. Every 1st through 3rd Thursday, we will be studying the scriptures. We will begin by reading the Gospel of Mark. Every 4th Thursday, we will be studying the Book of Concord, we will be starting with “Luther’s Small Catechism”, before exploring “Luther’s Large Catechism”.

I know what you may be thinking. You don’t have a Book of Concord in your library collection. Well, there are few solutions to this. 1) There is a version that you can access for free on any internet browser. It can be found at www.bookofconcord.cph.org/. 2) You can purchase from Concordia Publishing House or Amazon (may even get lucky at half-price book stores). Look for “Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions” by Concordia Publishing House. There is a pocket edition, a Paperback edition, and some other nicer versions. They range in price from about \$20 to \$45. If several people would like to order the same edition, we as a congregation may be able to bulk order at a discounted price.

What a great way to start a new school year, students, parents, grandparents, and all others joined together in learning what God's word, and the confession of the scriptures via the Book of Concord. I hope to see many of you there, and a truly multi-generational study of God's word and truth. ~Pastor Neil Wehmas



THERE WILL BE NO SUNDAY MORNING FELLOWSHIP OR SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS until this fall

HYMN SING SUNDAY so get your Hymn suggestions in the white box on the table in the Narthex

ASK THE PASTOR – "Have questions to ask Pastor Wehmas? He will attempt to answer a few questions as part of the service. **Submit your questions in the white box in the Narthex.**



UPCOMING DATES:

7TH & 8TH GRADE CATECHISM ORIENTATION with youth and parents on Wednesday, August 26 at 6:00PM

WEDNESDAY CROSS EXPLORATIONS (MIDWEEK CLASSES) for grades 3rd – 8th will this year be at 5:30-6:30PM.

There will be no snack time, when kids arrive they will go directly to class when they come at 5:30PM

7th & 8th GRADE CATECHISM CLASSES will begin on Wednesday, September 2

3rd – 6th GRADES will begin on Wednesday, September 9th

RALLY DAY FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL will start on Sunday, September 13 and Sunday School this year will be from 10:30AM-11:30AM. **RALLY DAY** we will also hand out Bibles to 3rd graders



COMMUNITY BASKET DONATIONS FOR COMMUNITY BASKET DONATIONS FOR AUGUST: Baking items: flour, sugar, cake mixes, frostings, baking powder/soda, brown sugar, etc.. Place your donation in the shopping cart in the Narthex or the clear tote on coat rack by front door. **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. Also note: they can use outdated items that are within a year of expiration.**

Mobile Food Pantry will be at Arthur Community Center on Thursday, August 20 from 4:30-5:30PM . Its helpful to bring a laundry basket or container for your food items.



2026 MONTHLY SCRIPTURE READING CALENDAR – AUGUST is on the Welcome Center for you to pick up. It is also included in this newsletter on the back of the monthly calendar also available on our Website under the Calendar tab. As well as our Facebook page.

LUTHERAN FAMILY SERVICE is pleased to announce Lynnette Aschinger, clinical social worker, available here for therapy at St. Paul on Tuesdays, and she is also has offices in Storm Lake, Wall Lake and Carroll. Along with offering telehealth as well. To schedule an appointment call 712-276-9000 or email at Laschinger@LutheranFamilyService.org Business cards are available on the Welcome Center

MISSION CENTRAL EVENTS!

- August 8, 2026 – Britt Odemba from Kenya – 1:00 pm
- August 15, 2026 – Rev. Brian and Deaconess Keah Payne – Tanzania 1:00 pm
- August 22, 2026 – Ashley Lehr – Puerto Rico – 1:00 pm



Join the Praise Band!



High school students and adults — do you sing or play an instrument? Come be part of our Praise Band!

Rehearsals: Wednesdays, date and time to be announced

First Service: Sunday, September 13

Interested? Contact Tammy Hoffman

Let's worship together through music!

BELL CHOIR if you are considering learning a new talent or sharing your existing musical talent. If you are interested in joining us, have questions, or would like to give ringing a try, watch for more details as to when practices will begin. If interested or have questions talk with Trisha Hoffman



Stewardship Sentence:

The Stewardship sentences are shared in helping to reinforce faithful, discipleship-centered stewardship is deeply encouraging. With the hope that they would serve as a simple tool to connect God's Word to the daily lives of His people—shaping hearts, strengthening faith, and guiding Christians in their walk as disciples of Christ, and also serves as a reminder of the shared mission we have in nurturing faithful stewards of God's gifts.

Scripture: "My house shall be called a house of prayer." — Matthew 21:13

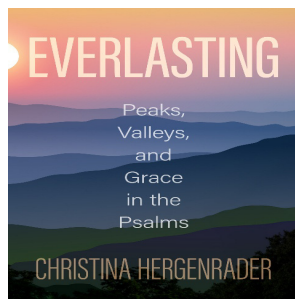
Stewardship Sentence: As God's people, we support His house and mission through faithful giving and prayerful devotion.

SOME OF YOUR OPTIONS FOR BIBLE STUDIES

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

WEDNESDAY MORNINGS BIBLE STUDY will return to meeting at **9:30AM** on Wednesdays, starting August 5

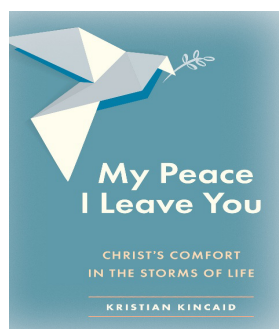
WOMEN'S EVENING BIBLE STUDY on 1ST AND 3RD Wednesdays on the month at **6:30PM **** and meet in the fellowship hall. The evening study will be doing **Everlasting, Peaks, Valleys & Grace in the Psalms**



Everlasting Peaks, Valleys and Grace in the Psalms by Christina Hergenrader

Anxious. Worthy. Ashamed. Nostalgic. Lonely. Secure. This is just a handful of emotions we observe in the Psalms—and in our day-to-day lives, too. In this women's Bible study from beloved author Christina Hergenrader, you'll be guided through 25 psalms, digging into their genres, perplex emotions, glimpses of Jesus, and more. While in this life we experience mountaintop moments, deep valleys, and everything in between, we can rest in God's everlasting love and grace. Gather your friends and together you can read, feel, discuss, pray, and grow closer to the Lord.

WOMEN'S DAYTIME BIBLE STUDY is on the 2nd & 3rd Thursdays at **1:00PM** in the Conference Room. The Daytime study will be doing the book/ Bible study **My Peace, I Leave You**



My Peace I Leave You by Kristian Kincaid shows you Christ's everlasting love for you through 20 different struggles. Guilt. Personal difficulties. Doubt. Pride. Worry. Whether or not you've gone through or felt each of them, there's certainly one that you've personally struggled with. Each chapter ends with a short prayer and Bible verse to help you reflect on the reading and points back to Christ helping you in daily life.



NEW BIBLE STUDY, READING THE BIBLE AND THE LUTHERAN CONFESSIONS WITH PASTOR NEIL, starting Thursday, August 6th at **7:00PM**, will be every Thursday and on the 4th Thursday he will be going through the Book of Concord. It is not necessary to have the Book of Concord to join in this Bible Study as it will only be used on the 4th Thursday.

But we are offering if you would want to purchase one, we can order for you. We will have a sign up sheet available on the Welcome Center for us to order Book of Concord through CPH, if you are wanting one, paperback version and hardback versions available or there is a free download for the Book of Concord <https://bookofconcord.cph.org/> **A copy of the Book of Concord is available on the Welcome Center for you to look at. This Bible Study is open to anyone and any age.**

NO SUNDAY MORNINGS BIBLE STUDY until Fall

LWML LADIES BIBLE STUDY AUGUST



Lutheran Women
in Mission

RUTH (2) will meet on **August 6** will have Bible study at 1:00PM at the church in the Old Conference Room. We had 7 present at our July meeting.

LOIS (3) will meet on **August** in the downstairs Conference Room at 1:30PM. Lois will be hostess and Mary/Judy will be BSL.

EUNICE (10) will meet on **Wednesday, August 5** at Willowdale Assisted Living, Battle Creek at 2:00PM. Clara will be hostess and Shar will be BSL. We had 8 present for our July meeting.

JOHANNA(12) will meet **August 6 at 7:00PM**, at Golden Horizons. Marge will be hostess and Lorna will be BSL. We had 6 at our July meeting.

LWML BIBLE STUDY LEADER'S MEETING we will be on **Tuesday, August 18 at 1:00PM**

THE 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. For August:

Arch Books for Immigrant Children in the USA Concordia Publishing House — Concordia Gospel Outreach, U.S. | \$125,000 About This Mission Grant Concordia Publishing House, through the Concordia Gospel Outreach program, wants to share the Good News of Jesus with thousands of immigrant and refugee children in the United States. The USA is home to nearly one-fifth of the world's international immigrants, many of whom face challenges in accessing materials in their native languages. This project will equip LCMS entities serving immigrant and refugee populations with Arch Books, free of charge, in the heart language of the children and their families. It is estimated that up to 125,000 children and their families will be reached by the translated books. Five Bible stories will be translated and made available in Spanish, Chinese, Telugu, Arabic, and Farsi. This grant will fund the creation and distribution of these Arch Books — *The Story of Creation, Noah's 2 x 2 Adventure, Baby Jesus is Born, The Week that Led to Easter, and Jesus Blesses the Children.*

QUILTERS: Some of the quilts and lab robes we make are red, white & blue for Ann to take to the VA in Omaha. We also gave a red white and blue quilt to our heroes Lisa and John Jacobsen who are military veterans and they graciously deliver to what we make to Sioux City.

If you are wanting a lap robe or if you know of someone or an organization that would like lap robes please contact the church office or Susan Miller.

TRINITY QUILTING CONVOCAATION - TLC Quilters invite you to join us **August 29th** for our **Quilting Convocation from 9 AM - 3 PM in the Trinity Life Center 520 N. Garfield, Algona.** Join us in fellowship with other Christian quilters, participate in hands-on demonstrations, observe new quilting techniques, and learn more about operating a Christian quilting organization. **Register by August 14th.** Find out more at www.trinityalgona.org/tlc-quilters . Also see poster in Narthex.

SPECIAL MISSION EVENT



Gary Thies

St. Paul Lutheran Church Ida Grove, Iowa

**Saturday, August 22, 2026 Worship at 5 p.m.
Sunday, Sunday August 23, 2026 Worship at 9 a.m.**

Gary brings to you and the congregation an in-person presentation with pictures and artifacts direct from the mission field. He has visited 75 countries and continues to connect weekly with over 100 LCMS missionaries around the world.

- Exciting presentation direct from the mission field
- More information at www.missioncentral.us

Gary W. Thies is a Mission Development Counselor with the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Gary lives on a farm in Western Iowa. He would love to share with you the news of what is really happening in missions through the LCMS. Be sure to invite someone to come with you because you, too, are a missionary!

Name: _____

Date: _____

It's time to uncover some summertime words in this word search! Imagine diving into a jumble of letters that captures the spirit of the season. Can you find all the hidden words related to August? Words may lurk in any direction—forward, backward, up, down, or diagonally. When you spot a word, circle it and check it off the list.

August

Word Search



AUGUST

- BBQ
- BEACH
- BOATING
- CAMPFIRE
- CAMPING
- FISHING
- FLIP-FLOPS
- FOREST
- HEAT
- HIKING
- ICE CREAM
- LEMONADE
- OCEAN
- PICNIC
- RELAXATION
- ROAD TRIP
- SAND
- SEASHELLS
- SUMMER
- SUN
- SUNGLASSES

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



SUNSHINE

SURFING

SWIM

TANNING



TRAVEL

VACATION

WATERMELON

WILDLIFE