

St. Paul's Lutheran Church Weekly Announcements

Week of Jan. 18—25, 2026

Today:	Worship/Communion	8:00 & 10:45 a.m.
	Disciple Training Hour	9:30 a.m.
Monday:	Mary Martha Circle—Perkins Eastside	6:00 p.m.
Tuesday:	Evangelism Committee Meeting	4:30 p.m.
Wednesday:	School Chapel	9:00 a.m.
	Confirmation —Church Basement	5:15 p.m.
Thursday:	Bible Study— Church Office	9:00 a.m.
Sunday:	Worship	8:00 & 10:45 a.m.
	Disciple Training Hour	9:30 a.m.

Reader Schedule	Sat. 6:00 p.m.	Sun. 8:00 a.m.	Sun. 10:45 a.m.
Jan. 17-18	Connie Brown	Bob Greene	Frank Tenuta
Jan. 25		Coleen Reich	Brandi Beller

Acolyte Schedule	Sat. 6:00 p.m.	Sun. 8:00 a.m.	Sun. 10:45 a.m.
Jan. 18	NA	Emilee DeVries	Mason Granstrom
Jan. 25		Harrison Knowles	Lincoln Beller

Financial Report 2026

Love Offering/We Care Ministry Report

Last Week	Received To Date	Amount Distributed	Balance
\$20	\$18,809.43	\$6,505.88	\$12,303.55

Church Weekly Offerings Report			Church Yearly Budget \$389,072.00		
Received (01/11/2026)	Weekly Budget	%	Up-To-Date Received	Up-To-Date Budget	%
\$4,963.32	\$7,352.48	68%	\$12,087.29	\$14,966.00	81%

FAMILY MATTERS

Last Week's Attendance: Jan: 3-4:142

Pray for Each Other We ask your prayers on behalf of our friends in Christ who have been hospitalized and sick: Phillip Hageman, Michael Lyons, Barb Hageman, Paula Dodds, Don Koch, Jennifer Monk, Alan Seymour, Leroy Zeising, Connie Spahn, Janice Hinrichsen, Carolyn Stuhr, Ron & Karen Sherrill, Bernie Attema, Pat Berger-Conlon, Deb and Julian Wolfe, Judy Seaman, Vickie Johnson, and Kim and Sharon Sparr. We pray for the Iowa District West leaders as they prepare a Call List of potential interim pastors for our church.

Welcome Cards/Attendance Cards: Please fill them out and place in the offering baskets.

Life Sunday 2026: "Fearfully and Wonderfully Made" is Lutherans For Life's theme for Sanctity of Human Life Sunday, which is set for **January 18, 2026**. Equipping Lutherans and their neighbors to be Gospel-motivated voices For Life. lutheransforlife.org or 888.364.LIFE (5433).

2026 National March for Life in Washington, D.C. - January 23, 2026 The 2026 National March for Life is in Washington, D.C. on

Friday, January 23, 2026. Plan now to join other Lutherans in marching and standing boldly together in the public square to confess our beliefs about the sanctity of life.

- Pastors Day On The Hill - Iowa State Capitol, **January 27th, 2026**
- Prayer For Life Rally - Iowa State Capitol, **February 5th, 2026.**

You're invited to attend the 2026 Iowa Prayer Rally for Life on **Thursday, February 5**, at 12:00 PM at the Iowa State Capitol. In addition to the Prayer Rally at Noon, attendees are invited to attend additional scheduled events from 10:30 AM 2:00 PM. Invited Prayer Rally speakers include Gov. Kim Reynolds, AG Brenna Bird, Rep. Jon Dunwell, and Rev. Alex Post (LCMS District Life Coordinators for Iowa District East). Join fellow Iowans who care about God's truth for life as we gather in

prayer, encouragement, and hope to continue to give a voice to those without. Learn more at <https://lutheranfamilyservice.org/events/>

Lutheran Schools Week: National Lutheran Schools Week will be celebrated **January 26 – 30**. Keep our school in your prayers that week and help us celebrate the wonders of St. Paul's Lutheran School. We will have a very fun and busy schedule during this week.

Monday, Jan. 26 "Let your light shine" (Matthew 5:16) **Crazy Hair Day!**

Go wild! Add bright colors, glow items, glitter, or anything that lights up in your hair for the day! God calls us to let our light shine through our gifts!

Tuesday, Jan. 27 "Uniquely Made by God!" (1 Corinthians 12:4) **Mismatch Day!** Celebrate how God made us all wonderfully unique! Even when things don't "match," God brings everything together with purpose.

Wednesday, Jan. 28 "Clothed in Christ" (Galatians 3:27) **Crazy Hat Day!** As we wear our fun hats today, we remember God calls us to "put on Christ" and show His love in all we do. Join us for **Goodies with Grown-ups** from 8 to 9 AM, and don't miss chapel afterward!

Thursday, Jan. 29 "Rest in Jesus" (Matthew 11:28) **Pajama Day!** Pajamas help us feel cozy and calm, but true rest comes from Jesus. Today we remember His promise: "Come to Me...and I will give you rest."

Friday, Jan. 30 "One in Christ, One School Family." (Ephesians 4:4) **Celebrate School Spirit Day** and the joy of being part of our school family! Show your spirit by wearing Maroon, Gold (yellow), Orange, or your St. Paul's attire! Don't miss our **Prom night**, taking place from 6 to 7 p.m.! (Parents are required to accompany their child/ren.)

Jan. 26 –Feb. 9—Valentines Bake Sale.

College Scholarship Information: Beta Sigma Psi at Iowa State University is offering 3 - \$2000 Scholarships for men attending Iowa state in the fall of 2026. first deadline is **Sunday, Feb. 1**. Apply at epsilon.betasignapsi.org/scholarship.

The 2026 Buntrock Scholarship Application up to \$13,000 is available for interested seniors who plan on attending at Augustana University in the fall. Learn more and apply at augie.edu/BuntrockScholarship.

The Lutheran Witness Magazine: We are taking renewals and new subscriptions for the Lutheran Witness Magazine. Subscriptions will be mailed out beginning May, 2026. Cost is \$31.10/year. Please let Dana know by **Friday, Feb. 27** if you are interested in renewing or starting a subscription.

Voices Unite: The 10th annual Voices Unite vocal festival will be on **Saturday, April 11** at Bishop Heelan High School. 9:00 a.m. –4:00 p.m. is the free vocal festival. 4:30 p.m. Free Public Concert. Visit voicesunite.org to register or more details.

Stain Glass Windows: We will be including a little explanation on the back page of the bulletin for you about our beautiful stained glass windows. There will be video in the PowerPoint announcements produced by our 4th and 5th graders.

Confirmation Classes: each **Wednesday, night** at 5:15 p.m. in the church basement. Please ensure that your child arrives on time and is prepared for each session. If they are not able to come please contact the church office at 712-252-0338 or siouxcitystpauls@gmail.com.

Giving Envelopes: have finally arrived! Please pick up your giving envelopes in the Narthex of the church.

End of Year Giving Statements: Will be mailed by **January 31**. Be on the look out for them and if you don't receive it, Call Dana at the church office.

Winter Church Schedule:

- **Traditional Services:**
 - 1st & 3rd Saturdays: at 6:00 p.m. with communion
 - Every Sunday at 8:00 a.m. with communion on the 1st & 3rd Sundays
- **Contemporary Service** at 10:45 a.m. on Every Sunday with communion on 1st

& 3rd Sundays

- **Sunday Bible Study and Sunday School** will be at 9:30 a.m. every Sunday in the church basement.

Facebook Live Streaming: We will be live streaming on our **MAIN Facebook page** for our services at 8:00 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.

Pastor Office Hours: Pastor James Travis office hours Wednesday mornings (8:00 a.m.—noon). If you have a spiritual need or questions, he will be available on Wednesdays to assist you. For an emergency he can be reached at 712-202-8516.

CAMP OKOBOJI EVENTS AND SUMMER CAMPS

**FAMILY ICE FISHING RETREAT
JANUARY 23—25, 2026**

This Ice Fishing Retreat is for all families of all ages – anyone who loves to fish or wants to learn! Registration includes meals from Friday supper-Sunday lunch, 2 nights lodging, & programming!

Cost: Ages 10+ | \$140

Children 3-9: \$90

2 and under: FREE

Download [2026 Ice Fishing Retreat](http://2026IceFishingRetreat.com)

Registration at www.okoboji.org

WINTER FAMILY FUN FEST

JANUARY 24, 2026 @ 9:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Join us on January 24th from 10am-1pm for Winter Family Fun Fest. We will have inflatables, s'mores, cookie decorating, crafts, sledding (if there's snow), and lunch! Everything is free-will offering. Hope to see you there!

SUMMER JOBS We are actively recruiting our 2026 Summer Staff! Please encourage youth (at least 16 years of age) and college students to consider serving with us. Those interested in serving at Camp Okoboji, or any LCMS camp in 2026 should complete a NLOMA profile. That is the first step in being considered for a summer position. Visit NLOMA.org for the profile link.

**YOUTH CAMPS—Summer Registration
Opened January 1st!**

KIDS' KAMP MAY 29-31

Age: Completed K – Grade 2

Cost: \$145/Adult \$95/Child

CUB WEEK JUNE 14-18 OR JULY 12-18

Age: Completed Grades 3-5

Cost: \$315

JUNIOR HIGH WEEK JULY 5-11

Age: Completed Grades 6-8

Cost: \$385

YOUTH WEEK JULY 19-25

Age: Completed Grades 8-12

Cost: \$400

**FAMILY RETREAT JUNE 28-JULY 3 OR
AUGUST 2-7**

JOY CAMP JUNE 4-7

Age: Ages 9+

Cost: Overnight Campers: \$200 | Day
Campers: \$100

Please register online! Online registration allows the check-in process at the beginning of Camp go much faster which allows campers to begin their retreat sooner. If you have any problems with online registration, call Camp Okoboji (712-337-3325)

WWW.CAMPOKOBOSI.ORG

School Fundraising

Hy-Vee Receipts Program: Please save all receipts dated between **September 1, 2025 and April 1, 2026 from any Sioux City or South Sioux City Hy-Vee locations.** Drop-offs are located in the church office, Narthex or can be sent with St. Paul's students.

RaiseRight Gift Cards: Stop in the office and pick up gift cards or place an order on www.raiseright.com by just scanning this code. With the app, you can download and pay directly at the stores. To set up your account contact the office.



Scan your BOX TOPS: after shopping, just scan your receipts on the Box Tops App and earn more money for the school. It is easy to participate. Download the Box Tops app, shop as you normally would, then use the app to scan your store receipt **within 14 days** of purchase. The app will identify Box Tops products on your receipt and automatically credit your school's earnings online.

Casey's App: Pick up a gift card in the office for Casey's, go purchase gas or other items, enter your Casey's rewards number and earn points. Cash in your rewards on their app for St. Paul's. Help St. Paul's make the most of this program and learn more at www.caseys.com.

Thrivent Members: can help by: 1. Designate Choice Dollars - go to www.thrivent.com/ thriventchoice or call 800-THRIVENT (800-847-4836). You have more choice dollars to direct after each quarter. (March 31, June 30, Sept. 30 and Dec. 31).

Regular Scheduled Meetings

Sunday Disciple Training Hour-Sunday Bible Study will be at 9:30 a.m. in the church basement taught by Frank Tenuta.

Sunday School: will be at 9:30 a.m. in the basement classrooms.

Mary Martha Circle: will meet **Monday, Jan. 19** at 6:00 p.m. at Perkins Eastside.

Anna Circle/Sewing Group meet twice a month on the second and fourth Mondays on **Jan. 12 & 26** in the church basement.

Evangelism Committee Meeting: Will meet at 4:30 p.m. on the **second and fourth Tuesdays on Jan. 13 & 27** in Church office

conference room.

Board of Education: will be **Tuesday Feb. 10** at 7:00 p.m. in the Teacher's workroom.

Elders Meeting: will be **Tuesday, Feb. 3** at 7:00 p.m. in the church office conference

Lamplighters: Meets the first Wednesday of the month at 9:30 a.m. on **Feb. 4** at Redeemer Lutheran Church.

St. Paul's Women's League Meeting: will be **Thursday, Feb. 5** at 1:00 p.m. in the church basement.

Youth Board meeting on **Wednesday, Feb. 11** at 5:30 p.m. in the church conference room.



I praise you, for I am
**Fearfully
and
Wonderfully
Made.**

Sanctity of Human Life Sunday
January 18, 2026



Are not two sparrows sold for a penny?
And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. But even the hairs of your head are all numbered.

Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.

Matthew 10:29-31

Jesus speaks these comforting words to us to remind us that we have nothing to fear, not even death itself. God, in His divine omniscience, knows all the details of our lives. And, because He loves us, He uses that omniscience to guard us and keep us safely in His kingdom. After all, if God guards and keeps even the sparrows, how much more will He keep you, who are of more value than the sparrows?!

But this comforting word from Jesus also raises the question, why are you of more value than the sparrows? The answer to that question is the foundation for our understanding of the sanctity of all human life. We are all of more value than the sparrows because we have each been **“fearfully and wonderfully made”** (Psalm 139:14) in the image of God.

Unlike the rest of creation—like the sparrows—which God spoke into existence and upholds with His mighty Word, mankind was wonderfully **“made and fashioned”** by the hands of God (Psalm 119:73) from the **“dust of the ground”** (Genesis 2:7).

Even now, God continues to show great care in making each human being, **“knitting”** every one of us together in our mother’s womb (Psalm 139:13). Therefore, from the moment of conception when God knits us together until the moment of our death, at every stage and in every condition in between, each person is precious to God. We are each so precious that God was willing to send His only-begotten Son to bear the **“sin of the world”** (John 1:29) and invite us all into His eternal kingdom.

As we are each valuable in the eyes of God, we can receive every single neighbor as a gift from the Lord regardless of their size, abilities, impairments, or age. Likewise, as we have been called and redeemed by Christ, we act as precious gifts—loving, defending, and protecting each one of them.



For we are all **Fearfully and Wonderfully Made.**



**LUTHERANS
FOR LIFE**

Equipping Lutherans and their neighbors to be Gospel-motivated voices **For Life**
lutheransforlife.org • info@lutheransforlife.org 888.364.LIFE (5433) • Item LFL1646BI

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Second window on the South wall



Wheat: "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit." John 12:24

Harvest: "Do you not say, 'There are yet four months, then comes the harvest?' Look, I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are white for harvest." John 4:35

After the spiritual sowing of the Gospel unto salvation, the harvest of souls is ready to be gathered in.

