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THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF ST. PAUL'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

April 2025

St. Paul's UMC

Worship:
10:10 a.m.

Sunday School:
9 a.m.


Address:
531 W. Main Street
Cherokee, IA 51012

Office Telephone:
(712) 225-3955

Office Texting Number:
(712) 227-3291

Pastor Mike's Cell:
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 Find us on Facebook
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Pastor Mike's Email:
michael.agnew@iaumc.net

Nicci's Email:
cherokeespumc@gmail.com

Nicci's Hours:
Monday - Thursday
9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
1 p.m. - 3 p.m.

Pastor Mike's Day Off:
Friday

St. Paul's Staff

Pastor:
Mike Agnew

Financial Secretary:
Sarah Cook

Administrative Assistant:
Nicci Lundquist

Custodian:
Betty Harman

Organists/Pianists:
Betty Point
Meribeth Adams
Chris Andersen

Chancel Choir Director:
Becky Lickiss

Bell Choir Director:
Dusty Basten

A Moment with Mike

As I write this newsletter article, I am sitting at home because of a blizzard going on outside my door. This has been the second blizzard this March, after having more than one day in the seventies. I suppose this is what some people call "second winter." In any case, for those looking forward to spring, a blizzard may be hard to take! Nonetheless, we know that spring is rapidly approaching, so we have hope that winter will soon be done.

There is a similar idea with Lent and Easter. Following along with the transition from winter to spring, Lent is a forty-day season leading us forward with anticipation for the celebration of Easter. Throughout Lent and Holy Week, we focus on our own mortality and sin, and we look at the story of Jesus, which always inevitably leads us to the dark story of his suffering, crucifixion, and burial. This is a dark place to rest in. Nonetheless, just as we must, unfortunately, go through another blizzard to get to spring, we must also focus on Jesus's suffering, death, and burial before we can get to the resurrection. Knowing about the resurrection makes it all easier to take, because we know that when things were at their darkest, Christ was victorious over sin and death.

In order to mark the season, we have some special services and activities that are highlighted in our newsletter. These include our Palm Sunday service on April 13th, a Maundy Thursday service on April 17th at 7 p.m., a Good Friday service on April 18th at 7 p.m., and Easter Sunday services on April 20th at 8 a.m. and 10:10 a.m. In addition to Easter worship services, we will also have our Easter brunch from 8:45-9:45 a.m. and an Easter egg hunt for the kids at 9:45 a.m. I hope you will be able to join us for any or all of these events.

Pastor Mike Agnew



Teen Time's Tavern Lunch & Pie Auction

**Sunday, March 30
11:15 a.m.**

Schuldt Dining Hall
St. Paul's United Methodist Church
531 W. Main Street, Cherokee

Join us for lunch for a
freewill donation, with a
pie auction to follow.

Proceeds go to Teen Time
(high school youth group)
for their Christmas
mission giving.

All members and friends of our congregation are welcome!

Lenten Happenings

Lent Studies



Pastor Mike is leading two Lent studies over *The Message of Jesus* by Adam Hamilton. The remaining Thursday 9:30 a.m. study dates are April 3rd, 10th, and 17th, and the Sunday 6:30 p.m. study dates are March 30th, April 6th, and April 13th. Both groups meet in Feller Lounge.

Bishop's Lenten Study

Guided by the Gospel's call to "love your neighbor as yourself," Bishop Kennetha J. Bigham-Tsai will examine how the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King's vision of beloved community can be a counterpoint to Christian nationalism and reflect on the lectionary passages for the Lenten season and the call of the church as we approach the season of resurrection. This study will take place on Tuesday evenings, April 1, April 8, and April 15, at 7 p.m. on Zoom. These will be recorded and available soon after for your small group studies. Register today at <https://www.iaumc.org/newsdetail/bishop-s-lenten-study-zoom-webinar-beloved-community-in-the-age-of-christian-nationalism-18924537>. After registering, you will be emailed a Zoom link.

Community Lenten Services

Sermons Ala Carte, community Lenten services held at Memorial Presbyterian Church, takes place on Wednesdays throughout Lent. Pastors from our community take turns preaching, with locals churches providing the meal. The worship service begins at 12:05 p.m., with lunch to follow at 12:30 p.m. (\$5/person). This year's theme is Christ's passion in the Gospel of Mark. Remaining dates, topics, and preachers are to follow:

- | | |
|------------|---|
| Wed., 3/26 | "Peter Denies Jesus"
Pastor Mike Agnew, St. Paul's UMC
St. Paul's UMC assists with the meal.
Salad bowls are available in our kitchen. |
| Wed., 4/2 | "Pilate Delivers Jesus to Be Crucified"
Pastor David Hall, First Church of Christ |
| Wed., 4/9 | "Jesus is Mocked"
Father Dan Rupp, Immaculate Conception. |

Maundy/Holy Thursday Service

April 17th

7 p.m.

Communion is open to anyone who desires a seat at God's table.

Good Friday Worship Service

April 18th at 7 p.m.

Easter Schedule

Sunday, April 20, 2025

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| 8 a.m. | Worship |
| 8:45-9:45 a.m. | Brunch (egg bakes, cinnamon rolls, & fruit) |
| — | No Sunday School |
| 9:45 a.m. | Easter Egg Hunt (toddler-5th grade) |
| 10:10 a.m. | Worship |

Palm Sunday

Sunday, April 13

10:10 a.m.

Children and youth are invited to join in the palm procession!

Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday, April 20

9:45 a.m.

North entrance
For toddlers through
5th grade

Announcements and Updates

New Administrative Assistant



Our administrative assistant, Tiffany Crum, resigned to manage a clothing store in Storm Lake, and her last day was March 11th. We are excited to announce that Nicci Lundquist

will start as our new administrative assistant on March 20th. Welcome, Nicci!

Men's Breakfast

Men's Breakfast will be held on Saturday, April 26th, at 8:30 a.m. All men are welcome, so invite a friend or neighbor to join us for a light breakfast and short devotion.



Small Candy Needed for Easter Egg Hunt



The Outreach and Connections Team is hosting an Easter egg hunt for toddlers through 5th graders on Easter Sunday, April 20th, at 9:45 a.m. Donations of small pieces of candy are needed to stuff the eggs. Fun-size candy bars won't fit in the eggs; we'll need mini size or other small candies. If you'd like to donate, please have the donations to the church by Sunday, April 13th, as the eggs will be stuffed following worship.

Dessert Sign-Up for Bingo Night

The Outreach & Connections Team will be hosting Bingo on May 1st. See the poster on the last page of the newsletter for details. Desserts are needed for supper, and a sign-up will be available in the narthex as the date approaches.



Graduate Information Needed



We will be honoring graduating high school and college students from our congregation during our worship service on May 18th. As part of the service, we will play a PowerPoint presentation that highlights each graduate. Parents,

if you would like your student to be included, please email the office a baby picture, a senior picture, and one or two pictures from in between. In addition, please share with us your student's name, where he/she is graduating from, his/her future plans, and any other information about your student that you want included in the bulletin insert. Please have this information submitted to the office by May 8th.

Other Upcoming Events & Meetings

Wednesdays	6 p.m.	Bell Choir practice (sanctuary)
Tues., 4/1	9:30 a.m.	Visitation Team (library)
Tues., 4/8	9 a.m.	Missions Committee (Feller Lounge)
Sun., 4/13	11:15 a.m.	Outreach & Connections Team (library)
Sat., 4/19	8 a.m.-12 p.m.	Dining Hall in use
Tues., 4/29	11 a.m.	Communion at Accura
Sun., 5/4	2:30 p.m.	District Conference (Laurens UMC)

Camp Registration

Registration is open for summer camp at Lake Okoboji and Wesley Woods UMC Camps! Remember, our Missions Committee will pay 75% of the registration fee for children, youth, and adults from our congregation. Visit <https://www.iaumc.org/camps/#iac> to learn more.



UMCOR Sunday Special Offering

March 30th is UMCOR Sunday (United Methodist Committee on Relief), and we will be collecting a special offering to underwrite UMCOR's administrative costs. This offering allows UMCOR to use 100% of funds donated for disaster recovery directly for communities in need. For more information about this special offering, please visit <https://www.umc.org/en/content/umcor-sunday-ministry-article>.

Native American Ministries Sunday

Native American Ministries Sunday is May 4th, and we will join other UM congregations in taking a special offering. To learn more, please visit <https://www.umc.org/en/content/native-american-ministries-sunday-ministry-article>.

Thank You Notes

A special thanks to Pastor Mike and Jennifer for all their support. A special thank you to all our friends, church family, and family for whatever you've done (prayer, phone calls, visits, cards, and regular concerns) for Loren! It's greatly appreciated! Thanks again!
~Loren and Darlene Woltman

As I enter my second century with eagerness and anticipation, I am grateful and honored to be remembered by so many of you. I send my love and thanks to each of you.
~Jean Rowe

Christian Education News

Children's Sunday School

Sunday School for PK-5th grade meets from 9 - 10 a.m. on Sundays. The children will be singing during the 10:10 a.m. worship service on Sunday, April 27th. That will also be noisy offering (spare change) Sunday, when we collect a special offering to benefit children's ministries here at St. Paul's. **Please note that there won't be Sunday School on Easter Sunday, which is April 20th. However, kids are welcome to join us at the north entrance at 9:45 a.m. for an Easter egg hunt!**



End of the Year Sunday School Party!

FLIP, TUMBLE, JUMP AND PLAY

LET'S CELEBRATE
End of Year Party!

APRIL 26TH 10:30-12:00

Where: Cherokee Tumbling
704 Sleezer Rd, Cherokee, IA
Please RSVP to: Miranda Cook (712) 369-7808
or Heidi Gerstandt (402) 317-0902

Children's Choir on January 26th



Adult Class

The Adult Class meets on Sundays from 9 - 10 a.m. in Feller Lounge. They are currently reading *Twisting the Truth* by Andy Stanley and will then spend a few weeks on *The Case for Easter* by Lee Strobel. All adults are welcome!



April Confirmation Schedule

Fri., 4/4	4 p.m.	Field trip to Congregation Beth Shalom (Sioux City)
Sun., 4/6	5 p.m.	Confirmation Class (Feller Lounge)
Sun., 4/13	5 p.m.	Confirmation Rehearsal (Schuldt Dining Hall)
Sun., 5/4	10:10 a.m.	Confirmation Sunday & Reception

April Teen Time Schedule (H.S. Youth Group)

Wed., 4/2	6:30 - 8 p.m.	FCA (Oakdale Evangelical Free)
Wed., 4/9	6:30 - 8 p.m.	Teen Time (409 Centennial Dr.)
Wed., 4/16	6:30 - 8 p.m.	Teen Time (409 Centennial Dr.)
Wed., 4/23	6:30 - 8 p.m.	Teen Time (409 Centennial Dr.)
Wed., 4/30	6:30 - 8 p.m.	Teen Time (409 Centennial Dr.)

All high school students are welcome at Teen Time! You don't have to be a member of St. Paul's to attend. Invite a friend, and join us!

Mark Your Calendar for Vacation Bible School!



Save the date for V.B.S., which will be held from 5 - 8 p.m. on July 20th - 24th. All kids who have completed PK - 5th grade are welcome! A free supper will be provided for the kids and their families, thanks to United Women in Faith and their assistants. Stay tuned for more information.

United Women in Faith Buzz

United Women in Faith Executive Board

Monday, April 14th, at 9:30 a.m.
Schuldt Dining Hall

Grace Circle

Wednesday, April 9th, at 6:30 p.m.
Schuldt Dining Hall

Joyful Charity Circle

Wednesday, April 16th, at 1:30 p.m.
Schuldt Dining Hall

All women are welcome to join a circle!



Worship Notes

North Door Greeters

- 4/6 Dave & Linda Appleby
4/13 Jeannette Grant
4/20 8 a.m. Micki Conley and 10:10 a.m. Norma Fox
4/27 Ervina Scott & Rod Raveling



Acolytes

- 4/6 Westin Stubbe
4/13 LunaRai Crannell
4/20 8 a.m. Needed - Sign up online.
10:10 a.m. Cord Lucas and Paxton Robinson
4/27 LunaRai Crannell

Liturgists

- 4/6 Rod Raveling
4/13 Scott Brown
4/20 8 a.m. Linda Burkhart
10:10 Linda Christensen
4/27 Chuck Tolzin



Children's Time

- 4/6 Ervina Scott
4/13 Jan Brown
4/20 8 a.m. Linda Burkhart
10:10 a.m. Roni Timmerman
4/27 Teen Time



Ushers

- 4/6 Gene & Jean Anderson, Jim & Peg Corrington, and Tim Gaydo
4/13 Dr. Wes & Sue Parker, Dave & Donna Lucas, and Austin Lucas
4/20 8 a.m. Jim & Peg Corrington, Curt & Kristal Phillips, and Amy Stief
10 a.m. Dave & Donna Lucas, Austin & Megan Lucas, and Aubrey Lucas
4/27 Mark & Becky Scherbring, Bonni Conley, and Marla Conley & Scott Osborn

Altar Flowers

- 4/6 Kent & Beth Simonsen
4/13 Gerald & Nancy Sears
4/20 Easter lilies
4/27 Open - Sign up in narthex, or call the office.



The 2025 altar flower sign-up is available in the narthex on Sundays, or you can call the office during the week. To provide altar flowers, you sign up and then call the florist of your choice. The florists in Cherokee all have a key to our building and can deliver the arrangements.

Nursery Attendants

- 4/6 Needed - Sign up online.
4/13 Needed - Sign up online.
4/20 8 a.m. Needed - Sign up online.
10:10 a.m. Needed - Sign up online.
4/27 Needed - Sign up online.



Current Sermon Series: Getting to Know the Disciples

- 3/30 "Andrew and Thaddeus" John 1:35-42; 14:18-24
4/6 "James, Son of Alphaeus, and Matthias" Mark 15:33-41 and Acts 1:15-26
4/13 "A Good Entrance" Matthew 21:1-11
4/17 "Judas" Matthew 26:14-16; 27:1-5
4/18 "Peter" Matthew 16:13-19; 26:31-35, 69-75
4/20 "Thomas" John 20:19-29

Sermon Podcast and Online Services Available

Sermons are available on 92.1 FM KCHE on Sunday mornings at 8:45 a.m. and are also available via podcast. You can find a link to a podcast app on our website (green icon in the upper right on the homepage). Our full service is available live on our YouTube channel and as a recording after the fact both on our YouTube page and on our Facebook page. A link for our YouTube page can be found on our website (red and white icon in upper right on the homepage), and a link for our Facebook page can also be found on our website (blue and white icon in upper right on the homepage). If you need assistance, please stop by the office. There are also printed directions on the table outside the office and on the table in the narthex.

Attendance

Date	Worship	Sunday School
3/2	91	23
3/9	90	21
3/16	104	28

With Sympathy & Prayers

Mary A. Chisman, 97, of Cherokee passed away on March 1st at Accura Healthcare of Aurelia. Memorial services will be held at a later date.

Milton Robert "Bob" Schroder, 91, of Cherokee passed away on March 7th at Heartland Care Center in Marcus. A memorial service was held on March 11th here at St. Paul's United Methodist Church. Burial will be held at Oak Hill Cemetery at a later date this spring. Bob is the husband of Jeanine.



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Bingo Night

Thursday, May 1, 2025

5:20 p.m. Doors open

5:30 - 6 p.m. Taco in a bag & desserts (freewill donation)

6 - 7 p.m. Bingo (prizes provided)

Join us for "Dad jokes" and pathetic prizes! 😊

St. Paul's United Methodist Church

531 W. Main Street, Cherokee (Schuldt Dining Hall)

Everyone is welcome! Bingo is FREE!

Questions? Contact us!

Email: cherokeespumc@gmail.com

Phone: (712) 225-3955

Text: (712) 227-3291