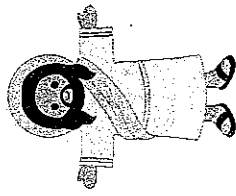


APRIL 2026 NEWSLETTER



ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH HARTLEY, IOWA
Rev. Chris Nitzel, Pastor
Church Office Telephone: 728-2711
Joshua Meeks, DCE Intern; Email: jmeeks102820@gmail.com Cell Phone: 574-361-4614
Church Office Email: sphart@tcaexpress.net
Church Website: stpaulslutheranhartley.com

St Paul's Church Council Meeting

March 17, 2026

Church council met on Tuesday March 17, 2026, at 7PM. Those present were: Pastor Nitzel, Donna Ahlers, Leroy Raabe, Dyan Roth, Inez Dacken, Allan Dacken, and Josh Meek.

Pastor opened with devotions from Romans 8: 9-11, reminding us how Jesus took on flesh to redeem our flesh.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as read.

Treasurer Report: We discussed the checkbook balance. Motion was made to approve and carried.

Finance Report: Donna reported the counts on Feb 24th and Mar 13th, and electronic contribution.

Elders Report: Wally reported that they have been discussing how to approach members who aren't attending church and would like to reach out to them.

Education: Josh reported that they are trying a new SS curriculum, "Answers in Genesis"

There will be a meeting with the parents of the next confirmation students, to decide how they want to combine the grades. Josh continues to work on the background checks.

Stewardship Report: Leroy did not have anything new to report.

Evangelism Report: Dyan reported that the Bingo was postponed due to weather and we will be deciding on a new date soon. JoEllen Harders will be starting a 6 week grief program on April 19th. Human Trafficking presentation be April 19th at 6:30PM. National Day of Prayer will be in May. And she showed us the letter the committee sends out to each new household moving into Hartley.

Trustees Report: Allan reported that the new drinking fountains are in and will be installed soon.

Pastor Report: Pastor reported that questioning for the confirmands is Sun Mar 22nd, and confirmation is Sun. April 12th. Easter week will be a full week of services. Pastor and Josh will be attending a workshop for pastors and workers on May 4 and 5th at Algona, Ia.

Old Business: Josh is interviewing for positions in Indiana and Colorado. His last day with us in June 15th. There is no information out yet for the next intern. We discussed the new directory book and as of yet there have been no one stepping up to head the committee. It will be put in the bulletin again.....

New Business: The next council meeting will be April 21st at 7:00PM and we closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Inez Dacken, Council Secretary

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**NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY ...** The church council would like to do a new Church directory. The last one was in 2015. We are still in need of a leader and a committee to help get this started. It would be a matter of contacting a photographer and lining up the appointments for the pictures. If you are interested in this, please contact Patty at the church office.

FREE PUBLIC SHOWING

St Paul's Lutheran Church  
60 N. Central Ave.

Sunday,  
April 19  
6:30-8pm

Hartley, Ia

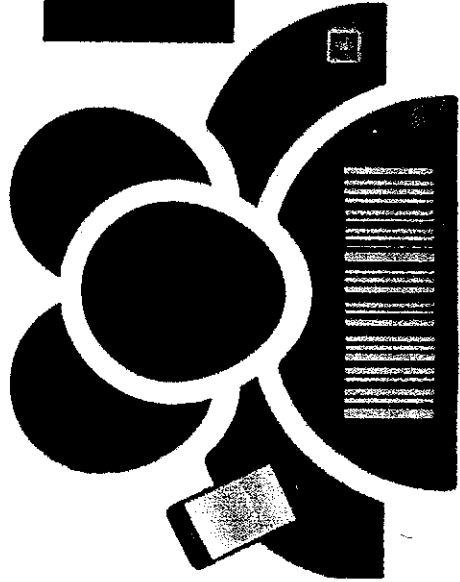
Educating on the dangers of human trafficking in Iowa

# STOP HUMAN TRAFFICKING

We are committed to bringing awareness to every community in our state, to help combat and bring clarity on the misconceptions of human trafficking.

## Key points:

- WHAT MADE IOWA SO PREVALENT
- REALITIES HAPPENING IN IOWA
- ACTION STEPS EVERYONE CAN DO
- WHAT TO LOOK FOR AND UNDERSTANDING THE MISCONCEPTION
- CULTURE IMPACT: 'NEEDS OF THE GARDEN'



Presenting:  
Stacy Besch, Team Iowa



Stacy Besch has been an entrepreneur for over 29 years. She is an instructor at community colleges throughout the state, professional speaker, mother of two with 5 bonus children and a farm wife. In her spare time, Stacy is actively involved in her community of Algona. She travels around Iowa developing leadership programs in communities throughout the state and as a volunteer through Team Iowa she uses her voice to help educate and combat child and human trafficking.

Phone: 515-341-8642

email: [icmstacy@netamumail.com](mailto:icmstacy@netamumail.com)

# GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

St. Paul Lutheran Church in Hartley will be hosting a 'Grief Support Group' for anyone who has suffered a loss.

Our goal is not to "cure" you, but instead help you understand and find outlets to deal with grief.

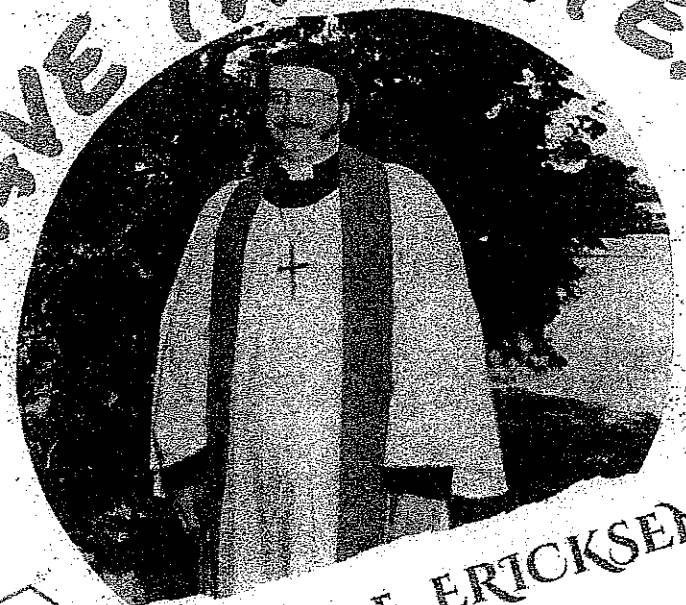
Please contact Jo Harders at 712-260-1086, by April 17<sup>th</sup> if you are interested in attending.



**ST. PAUL'S  
60 N CENTRAL AVE  
HARTLEY, IA**

**APRIL 19<sup>TH</sup> & 26<sup>TH</sup>  
MAY 3<sup>RD</sup> & 17<sup>TH</sup>  
2:00-3:30PM**

SAVE THE DATE!



REV. DAVID E. ERICKSEN

JUNE 28<sup>TH</sup>, 2026

St. Paul Lutheran Church of Hartley, Iowa recognizes Pastor Dave's 50 years in the ministry!

SAVE THE DATE!

JUNE 28<sup>TH</sup>, 2026

**REV. CHRIS NITZEL'S  
20 YEARS IN MINISTRY!**


St. Paul Lutheran Church of Hartley, Iowa recognizes Rev. Nitzel's 20 years in the ministry. Please join us for the celebration!

# APRIL

## ♥ ♥ ♥ WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES ♥ ♥ ♥

- 2 - Harlyn and Nona Hengeveld      21 - Brett and Kristen Ripke  
13 - Bill and Patty Treimer      27 - Allan and Inez Dacken  
16 - James and Julie Swenson      28 - Doug and Bev Nagel

## ♪ ♪ ♪ BIRTHDAYS ♪ ♪ ♪

- |                                   |                                                                                     |                                    |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 3 - Hoyt Ahrenstorff              | 10 - Dennis Nagel                                                                   | 21 - Shirley Jager<br>Inez Dacken  |
| 4 - Mary Jane Peterson            | 11 - Vickie Roghair                                                                 | 24 - Jen Waddell                   |
| 5 - Steve Lux                     | 12 - Julie Swenson<br>Jordan Waddell                                                | 26 - Brandon Ripke                 |
| 6 - Connie Ebel                   |  | 30 - Marilyn Tesch<br>Pierce Adams |
| 7 - David Peters<br>Nathan Peters | 18 - Joellen Harders                                                                |                                    |



## \*National Day of Prayer\*

Join us in a brief Prayer/Praise Service for America!

\*Thursday, May 7, 2026, 7 - 7:30 am\*

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Hartley

"Glorify God Among the Nations"

"Seeking Him in All Generations" - 1 Chronicles 16:24

\*BRING your friends & family! Refreshments following\*

# APRIL / MAY

## SERVING SCHEDULES

### GREETERS

April 2 (MThurs 6:30pm) – Pastor Dave  
April 3 (GFriday 6:30pm) – Rick and Vickie Roghair  
April 5 (6:30am) – Wally and Becky Tschopp  
April 5 (9:00am) – Ron and Cindy Pingel  
April 12 – Pat McCarty and Carla De La Cruz  
April 19 – Bill and Patty Treimer

April 26 – Gene & Shelley Hjelrn  
May 3 – Roger and Peg Jacobs  
May 10 – Lois Klatt and Rosemary Jalas  
May 17 – Brad and Beth Fear  
May 24 – Allan and Inez Dacken  
May 31 – Cliff fand Shirley Ripke

### COMMUNION

#### Set-up

April 2 (MThurs) – Brenda and Mia Harders  
April 5 (Sunrise) – Allan and Inez Dacken  
April 5 (9am) – (Ed and Jo Harders)  
April 19 – Gene and Shelley Hjelrn  
May 3 – Rod and Dyan Roth  
May 17 – Bill and Patty Treimer

#### Clean-Up

– Wally and Becky Tschopp  
– Ed and Jo Harders  
– Rod and Dyan Roth  
– Brad and Betty Harms  
– Brad and Betty Harms  
– Rick and Vickie Roghair

### USHERS

**April 2**  
(MThurs – 6:30pm)  
Bill Treimer (H)  
Wade Gebert  
Alex Billings

**April 3**  
(GFriday – 6:30pm)  
David Treimer (H)  
Gene Hjelrn  
Allan Dacken

**April 5**  
(Sunrise – 6:30am)  
Ty Waddell (H)  
Jesse Benz  
Josiah Nitzel

**April 5**  
(Easter – 9:00am)  
Kent Billings (H)  
Rick Roghair  
Bill Pippy

**April 12**  
Mark Recher (H)  
Wally Tschopp  
Easton Teal

**April 19**  
Bill Treimer (H)  
Gene Hjelrn  
Brad Fear

**April 26**  
David Treimer (H)  
Jesse Benz  
Allan Dacken

**May 3**  
Ty Waddell (H)  
Ed Harders  
Josiah Nitzel

**May 10**  
Kent Billings (H)  
Alex Billings  
Bill Pippy

**May 17**  
Mark Recher (H)  
Wade Gebert  
Ed Harders

**May 24**  
David Treimer (H)  
Gene Hjelrn  
Jesse Benz

**May 31**  
Bill Treimer (H)  
Doug Nagel  
Brad Harms

### CAMERA OPERATORS

April 2 (MThurs 6:30pm) – Easton Teal  
April 3 (GFriday 6:30pm) – Bill Treimer  
April 5 (6:30am) – Josiah Nitzel  
April 5 (9:00am) – Kyle Harms  
April 12 – Brad Harms  
April 19 – Alex Billings

April 26 – Doug Nagel  
May 3 – Easton Teal  
May 10 – Bill Treimer  
May 17 – Josiah Nitzel  
May 24 – Kyle Harms  
May 31 – Brad Harms

### ACOLYTES

April 2 (MThurs 6:30pm) – Hayden B.  
April 3 (GFriday 6:30pm) – Sydney W.  
April 5 (6:30am) – Ellissyn S.  
April 5 (9:00am) – MacKenzie W.  
April 12 – Simeon N.  
April 19 – Hoyt A.

April 26 – Hayden B.  
May 3 – Sydney W.  
May 10 – Ellissyn S.  
May 17 – MacKenzie W.  
May 24 – Simeon N.  
May 31 – Hoyt A.

### FELLOWSHIP SERVERS

April 5 – (Easter Breakfast)  
April 12 – (Confirmation Reception)  
April 19 – Cliff and Shirley Ripke  
April 26 – Bill and Patty Treimer

May 3 – Rick and Vickie Roghair  
May 10 – Wade and Stephanie Gebert  
May 17 – Brenda and Jo Harders  
May 24 – Wally and Becky Tschopp  
May 31 – Rodney and Dyan Roth

**Happy Easter**



# April 2026

| Sunday                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Monday               | Tuesday                                                                            | Wednesday                                                                                                             | Thursday                                       | Friday                                    | Saturday |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|----------|
|  <p style="text-align: center;"><b>St. Paul's Lutheran Church</b><br/>           60 N Central Ave<br/>           Hartley, IA 51346<br/>           Office: 712-728-2711</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Pastor Chris Nitzel<br/>           Cell Phone: 712-363-5433<br/>           Parsonage: 712-728-2890</p> |                      |                                                                                    |                                                                                                                       |                                                |                                           |          |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                      |                                                                                    | 1                                                                                                                     | 2                                              | 3                                         | 4        |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                      |                                                                                    | 9:30am Prayer Group<br>10:00am Bible Study<br>5:00pm Choir practice                                                   | 6:30pm Maundy<br>Thursday Communion<br>Worship | 6:30pm Good Friday<br>Service of Darkness |          |
| <i>Easter</i> 5                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 6                    | 7                                                                                  | 8                                                                                                                     | 9                                              | 10                                        | 11       |
| 6:30am Easter Sunrise<br>Communion Worship<br>7:30am LYF Easter Breakfast<br>9:00am Easter Communion<br>Worship                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 9:00am POP Meeting   |                                                                                    | 9:30am Prayer Group<br>10:00am Bible Study<br>5:00pm Choir practice                                                   |                                                |                                           |          |
| <i>Second Sunday of Easter</i> 12                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 13                   | 14                                                                                 | 15                                                                                                                    | 16                                             | 17                                        | 18       |
| 9:00am Communion Worship<br>(Confirmation)<br>10:15am Fellowship Time<br>10:30am SS/Adult Bible Class                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 6:30pm Rachel Circle |                                                                                    | 9:30am Prayer Group<br>10:00am Bible Study<br>5:00pm Choir practice                                                   |                                                |                                           |          |
| <i>Third Sunday of Easter</i> 19                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 20                   | 21                                                                                 | 22                                                                                                                    | 23                                             | 24                                        | 25       |
| 9:00am Communion Worship<br>10:00am Fellowship Time<br>10:15am SS/Adult Bible Class<br>2:00-3:30pm Grief Support<br>6:30-8pm Human Trafficking<br>Presentation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 9:30am Mary Circle   | 9:30am Qtrly LWML<br>Meeting<br><br>6:00pm Elders Meeting<br>7:00pm Church Council | 9:30am Prayer Group<br>10:00am Bible Study<br><br>LWML Spring Rally<br>(St. John's, Sanborn)<br>5:00pm Choir practice |                                                |                                           |          |
| <i>Fourth Sunday of Easter</i> 26                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 27                   | 28                                                                                 | 29                                                                                                                    | 30                                             | 31                                        |          |
| 9:00am Morning Worship<br>10:00am Fellowship Time<br>10:15am SS/Adult Bible Class<br>2:00-3:30pm Grief Support                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                      | 2:00pm Card Crew                                                                   | 9:30am Prayer Group<br>10:00am Bible Study<br>5:00pm Choir practice                                                   |                                                |                                           |          |

