

NEWSLETTER

ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH

HARTLEY, IOWA

Rev. Chris Nitzel, Pastor

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St. Paul Church Council Meeting April 21, 2026

Church council met on April 21, 2026 at 7PM. Those present were Pastor Nitzel, Mark Recher, Jen Waddell, Jesse Benz, Kent Billings, Josh Meeks, Dyan Roth, Donna Ahlers, LeRoy Raabe, Allan Dacken, and Inez Dacken.

Pastor opened the meeting with a message from John 14: vs 1 -6. When our hearts are troubled, we are assured that Jesus is with us.... "I am the Way".

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as read.

Treasurer Report: Kent reported the balance in checking account with 29% of our budget has been used. Motion was made to approve the report, seconded and carried.

Finance Report: Donna reported the \$amount of the offerings that were counted three times since the last meeting.

Elders Report: Jesse reported that they again discussed meeting with members who have not been attending church.

Education Report: Josh reported that the VBS materials are in and the SS curriculum "Answers in Genesis" is going well.

Stewardship Report: LeRoy had no report to make at this time.

Evangelism Report: Dyan reported that the Human Trafficking program was attended very well, and she received thank yous from the community for having the presentation. JoEllen has started the grief support sessions. Bingo will be held this Sunday , April 26th at 4:00PM. National World Day of Prayer will be held on May 7th. We will have one service at 7:00AM.

Trustee Report: Allan reported that the water fountains have been replaced. They have gotten estimates on downspout covers for the parsonage.

Pastor Report: Pastor reported that he and Heather will be attending a spring Pal's Retreat at Camp Okoboji in May. There is a Facilitator conference on June 21 in St. Louis that they will be attending, and Josh and Pastor will attend a workers conference in Algona on May 4 and 5th. He also reported that it looks like we will not be getting an intern this coming year.

Old Business: Josh has not been offered a call yet but has an interview at a church near St Louis area next week.

There still has not been anyone come forward to head up the church photo directory book. Lots of people have offered to help, but not be the head, so if 2 people wanted to do it together, please contact the church office.

New Business: A discussion was held about purchasing another wooden wall sign for the North wall in the entryway. It would be just like the one in the fellowship area. The POP group picked out the verse: "Worship the Lord with Gladness, come before Him with Joyful songs. Psalm100:vs2. After discussion, a motion was made to purchase the sign and use funds from the undesignated memorial fund.

Jen Waddell brought to our attention that their niece, Neela Waddell, who is just 16, and the 7th of 9 children, has developed a severe brain growth. She will require 2 risky surgeries in May. Neela's parents will both need time off of their work to take care of her---her mother is self employed so no income will be coming in. They have set up a Go Fund Medical benefits account for her, but will be of need for other expenses. A motion was made that we have a 5th Sunday special offering for the family. It will be the last Sunday in May (May 31st) and we will match that amount from the Thrivent Choice Dollars account.

Also, under new business, we discussed the medical issues that the Jeremy Walters family have been undertaking. Jeremy will be having further surgery soon and will not be able to work, and because he is self-employed, will have no income. A motion was made to gift them \$1000.00 and this money will come out of the Members in Need fund.

We will change our monthly meetings to Wednesdays, so the next one will be May 20th.

There was a motion to adjourn and Pastor led us in prayer.

Inez Dacken, Council secretary

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

LWR is an international non-governmental organization that focuses on relief and recovery. The organization was founded in 1945 to collect and send aid to people living in post-World War II Europe. Today, LWR helps communities living in extreme poverty adapt to the challenges that threaten their livelihoods and well-being and responds to emergencies all over the world. One of LWR's flagship programs—started in 1945 and continuing today—is its **Quilt and Kit Ministry**. Each year Lutherans across the United States assemble and donate LWR Mission Quilts, as well as several kinds of Care Kits to assist people living in poverty in times of emergency or great need.

There are three kinds of LWR Care Kits: **LWR Personal Care Kits** contain items like toothbrushes, wash cloths, and soap, intended to help a person or family maintain hygiene practices. **LWR School Kits** contain notebooks, pencils, erasers, backpacks, and other items to use for students to attend school. **LWR Baby Care Kits** contain T-shirts, cloth diapers, and other items to care for a baby.

Thank you, thank you, thank you, to our ladies here at St. Paul's who have sewn approximately 120 quilts and assembled 30 kits that are ready to ship out on Saturday, May 2. Our sewers include Connie O., Rosemary Jalas, Lucile Tanner, Carolyn Rubsam, Kathy Luedke, Diane Rabenberg, Lois Klatt, Jean Tewes, Peggy Tewes, Rhonda Pippy, Inez Dacken, Bev Nagel, and Sheryl Scheerhoorn (from the Sanborn church). Special thanks to Leroy Raabe for helping with the packaging. Dean Peterson has transported the packed boxes to Spencer every year and is much appreciated. And, of course, a big thank you to all of you who have donated many sheets and materials, etc.

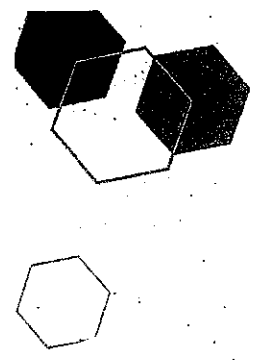
We sewed until we ran out of material this year, so we are now accepting any donations for that again ... just leave your donations in the East kitchen.

This has been an exciting year!! And the quilts will be a BLESSING to many in need. For more information, search LutheranWorldRelief.com and click on the "quilting & kits" button.

JUNE 28TH, 2026

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

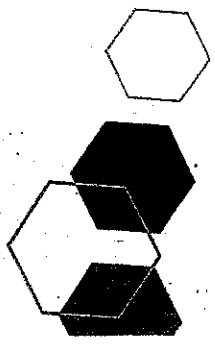
St. Paul Lutheran Church of Hartley, Iowa
recognizes Rev. Nitzel's 20 years in the ministry.
Please join us for the celebration!



REV. DAVID E. ERICKSON

JUNE 28TH, 2026

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



RSVP FOR PASTORS APPRECIATION EVENT
SUNDAY, JUNE 28

Please let us know if you will be able to attend the Pastors Appreciation Event no later than Sunday, June 21. Kindly RSVP by replying to this message. You may drop it off to Patty in the church office, or place in the offering plate. We look forward to celebrating together!

_____ Yes, I look forward to attending.
_____ # of those attending with me

_____ No, I'm sorry I will be unable to attend.

Name _____



MAY

♥ ♥ ♥ WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES ♥ ♥ ♥

29 – Wally and Becky Tschopp (55th)

31 – Jesse and Ashley Benz

♪ ♪ ♪ BIRTHDAYS ♪ ♪ ♪

2 – Dawn Bobzien

7 – Nathan Tschopp

8 – Brett Ripke

11 – Mark Schulz

14 – Rick Roghair

16 – Marilyn Honken
Benjamin Waddell

17 – DeVonn Troutner

20 – Doug Nagel
Melissa Vander Veen

21 – Don Warburton

24 – Brianna Clem

27 – Hunter Ahrenstorff

28 – Skyahlie DenBeste

29 – Amanda Recher
Jackson Albert

30 – Lane Elliott

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.

MAY / JUNE

SERVING SCHEDULES

GREETERS

May 3 – Roger and Peg Jacobs
May 10 – Lois Klafft and Rosemary Jalas
May 17 – Bill and Patty Treimer
May 24 – Allan and Inez Dacken
May 31 – Cliff and Shirley Ripke

June 7 – Kathi Unterbrink and Kathy Luedke
June 14 – Brad and Betty Harms
June 21 – Brenda Harders and Mia
June 28 – Pastor Dave

COMMUNION

Set-up

May 3 – Rod and Dyan Roth
May 17 – Bill and Patty Treimer
June 7 – Allan and Inez Dacken
June 21 – Ed and Jo Harders

Clean-Up

Brad and Betty Harms
Rick and Vickie Roghair
Wally and Becky Tschopp
Gene and Shelley Hjelm

USHERS

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 Hjelm
Jesse Benz

May 31
Bill Treimer (H)
Doug Nagel
Brad Harms

June 7

Ty Waddell (H)
Brad Fear
Allan Dacken

June 14

Kent Billings (H)
Rick Roghair
Josiah Nitzel

June 21

Mark Recher (H)
Alex Billings
Wade Gebert

June 28

David Treimer (H)
Bill Pippy
Gene Hjelm

CAMERA OPERATORS

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

June 7 – Alex Billings
June 14 – Doug Nagel
June 21 – Easton Teal
June 28 – Bill Treimer

ACOLYTES

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

June 7 – Sydney W.
June 14 – MacKenzie W.
June 21 – Simeon N.
June 28 – Hoyt A.

FELLOWSHIP SERVERS

May 3 – Bill and Patty Treimer
May 10 – Wade and Stephanie Gebert
May 17 – Senior Reception
May 24 – Cliff and Shirley Ripke
May 31 – Rodney and Dyan Roth

June 7 – Brenda and Jo Harders
June 14 – Allan and Inez Dacken
June 21 – Bill and Rhonda Pippy
June 28 – Have and Marjean Westerman

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT! (from Pastor's Desk!)

RE: Loud Child Policy

At St. Paul's – Hartley – we are committed to transparency and accountability in all matters of church life. The following document outlines our comprehensive procedures regarding loud children in worship. Please consider this your official notice of policy clarification.



Effective immediately, if a family is attending services at St. Paul's and they have a loud child, the following options are available:

- 1. The family should bring the child to church.*
- 2. The family should make sure they bring the child.*
- 3. The family is to see that the child is brought to church.*
- 4. The child is absolutely welcome and expected.*

We believe that the sound of children in worship is NOT a distraction. It is evidence of life, growth and the future of St. Paul's.

Policy enacted. No exceptions. If your child makes noises, you are NOT bothering us. You are BLESSING us.

MAY 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>St. Paul's Lutheran Church 60 N Central Ave Hartley, IA 51346 Office: 712-728-2711</p> <p>Pastor Chris Nitzel Cell Phone: 712-363-5433 Parsonage: 712-728-2890</p>						
<i>Fifth Sunday of Easter</i> 3 9:00am Communion Worship 10:00am Fellowship Time 10:15am SS/Adult Bible Class	4	5	6 9:30am Prayer Group 10:00am Bible Study	7 7am Nat'l Day of Prayer Service	8	9 2:00pm Bridal Shower for Carla De La Cruz
<i>Sixth Sunday of Easter (Mother's Day)</i> 10 9:00am Morning Worship 10:00am Fellowship Time 10:15am SS/Adult Bible Class	11 9:00am POP Meeting 6:30pm Rachel Circle	12	13 9:30am Prayer Group 10:00am Bible Study	14	15	16
<i>Seventh Sunday of Easter</i> 17 9:00am Communion Worship 10:00am HS Graduates Recognition Reception (No SS/Adult Bible Class)	18 9:30am Mary Circle	19	20 9:30am Prayer Group 10:00am Bible Study 6:00pm Elders Meeting 7:00pm Church Council	21	22	23
<i>The Day of Pentecost</i> 24 9:00am Morning Worship 10:00am Fellowship Time 10:30am Adult Bible Class	<i>Memorial Day</i> 25 	26	27 9:30am Prayer Group 10:00am Bible Study	28	29	30
<i>The Holy Trinity</i> 31 9:00am Morning Worship 10:00am Fellowship Time 10:30am Adult Bible Class						