



St. Paul News

St. Paul Lutheran Church

Ida Grove, Iowa

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JULY

2024

The Truth Shall Set You Free By Pastor Neil Wehmas

(Jesus said) "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth and the truth will set you free." (John 8:31-32)

As the 4th of July draws near, we speak a great deal about freedom. As Americans, we treasure our freedoms. We have freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom of press, and other freedoms.

Freedoms, that I pray the celebration of our nation's Independence, we choose to treasure. That we spend time in worship, hearing God's word confessed to us, without fear of persecution. That we would teach our children about the faith, and tell our neighbors. What great ways to celebrate our Independence.

American soldiers did not engage in 108 military conflicts to grant you freedom to have a grill out and spend time on the beach. No one had to fight for these freedoms. They didn't even fight for your right to NOT worship or talk about your faith. That freedom exists throughout the world. They fought for your right to worship your God without fear of persecution. They fought for and continue to defend your right to speak of your faith to others without fear of persecution.

I pray that we would live out these fears. I pray that we would indeed worship "the Truth" and speak of "the Truth" to the world. For it is indeed "The Truth" who is Jesus that sets us free.

No, he isn't setting us free from persecution (only). He is setting us free from sin, death, and the devil. He gives us the greatest of freedoms. Freedom from a world of war. Freedom from a world of persecution. Freedom from a world of poverty and sickness. Freedom from our own wretchedness and our own sin.

Jesus came to die and rise from the dead, in order that those who by grace, confess Him as Lord and God, may be set Free. Sitting and watching loved ones as they slowly die, from this we are set free. Lying in agony as we ourselves die, from this we are set free.

This Independence Day, may relish in the freedoms we have as Americans. May we attend the Divine Service, hear of the truth of Jesus Christ. Recall his precious gift of baptism. Receive the precious gift of his holy supper, by which he gives us His body and blood for the forgiveness of sins. God has given you the privilege to take part in His Divine Service. By the words of our constitution and the defense of our soldiers, God has given you the distinct privilege to receive these gifts without fear of persecution. Relish in this freedom, practice it. For in it, God delivers to you the greatest of all freedoms.

Many of your neighbors, though they have freedoms as Americans, just as you do. They dwell in bondage to sin, death, and the devil. Bondage that leads to eternal death. Again, relish in your freedoms, live in your freedoms, and tell others of Jesus. Invite them to church, invite them to a Bible Class, talk about and point them to ways to learn of "The Truth", who is Jesus Christ. Speak, that they may hear, and by hearing may believe. Those who believe in Him who is "The Truth" shall indeed be set free.

Until that day comes to God be all Glory. In Jesus' Name. amen.



FROM PRESIDENT TURNER AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE : As you are aware, calamity has struck again with the floods in western Iowa. On Monday June 24, I visited Trinity Lutheran in Hawarden, Christ the King and First English (both in Spencer). Trinity has suffered major damage to both the parsonage and church building. Christ the King also suffered major damage to their church building. It appears that First English was spared. However, both Pastor Kaldahl's and Pastor McGinley's homes suffered major damage. This brief assessment does not take into consideration all the families, individuals and even churches impacted by these flood waters - please keep all affected in your prayers. A major difficulty with this disaster, is that most homeowner and church insurance does not cover damage caused by flood waters.

We, as St. Paul Missionaries we will be having a free will donation towards these flooding disasters and their recovery efforts. There is a white ice cream bucket on our Welcome Center for you to drop off your monetary donation or you can drop it at the church office.

Please keep all communities of Iowa, South Dakota, Minnesota, and Nebraska who are experiencing flooding

We also still keep the communities of Minden and Greenfield, Iowa in our prayers as they still recover from devastating tornados.



COMMUNITY BASKET DONATIONS for July is Condiments: ketchup, mustard, pickles, may, salt/pepper, puddings/jello, etc., place your donation in the shopping cart in the Narthex or hallway. All 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. **The mobile food pantry will be on July 18, at the Ida Grove Methodist Church, Ida Grove from 4:30-5:30PM.**

If you're able to help, with filling a box or carrying a box, it would be appreciated, The Ida Grove Methodist Church has also specifically asked if our youth would be able to help as well 3:15PM is when they asked for our volunteers to be there.

CHRIST & CINEMA (Movie Night) on Wednesday nights is on hold due to low attendance.

Let us know if you have a suggestion as to a day of the week – time of year ? Leave your suggestions in the brown offering box or let us know at the church office.

HOSPITALIZATION REMINDER : if you are admitted to any hospital please let us know or have a family member or a friend let Pastor Neil or the church office know, so we know you are there to visit, or would just want prayers from Pastor.

HYMN SING SUNDAYS "Every second Sunday of the month, we will sing some of your favorite hymns. Put your choices for hymns to sing in the box in the Narthex, and they will be used as part of the worship services during the second Sunday of the month."

COFFEE AND FELLOWSHIP Coffee & Fellowship on Sunday mornings is now on summer break until September.

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS meets from **9:30-10:30AM** in the Conference Room in the lower level. We will not meet on July 17, 24 or 31st.

SUNDAY MORNING HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH in the youth room from 10:15AM

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT BIBLE CLASS join us in the Conference Room at 10:15AM.

LWML LADIES BIBLE STUDY FOR JULY

JOHANNA(12) will meet on July 11 at 6:30PM, at the church. Marge will be hostess and Cecile will be BSL. We had 5 present for our June meeting.

LWML MITEBOX CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2024

Your coins will make a difference on the national level as well as in Ida Grove in 2024! Please drop your coins in the large Mite Box located in the Narthex whenever you visit our church!

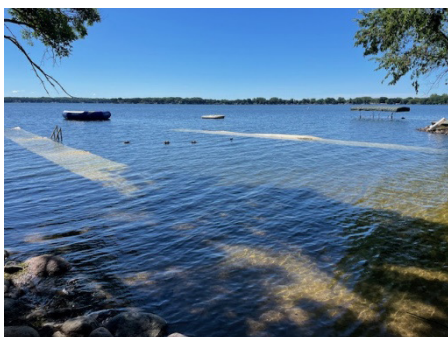
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UPDATING INFORMATION: we always ask to update our records with any new addresses, even if its been within 6 months – year, any changes in phone numbers, etc.to make sure we have all correct information of birthdates and anniversaries. Also if you would not like your birthday or anniversary publicized in the weekly bulletin or the monthly newsletter please let the church office know. stpaulidagrove@gmail.com or 712-364-2918

MONTHLY NEWSLETTERS AND CALENDAR are always available to be picked up at the church in the narthex. If you would like to view online our website is www.stpaulig.org If you would like it emailed to you please contact the church office, email us or fill out the “update our information form” Copies of the form to update information is available on the Welcome center and can be placed in the wooden offering box



Make a gift today to help Camp Okoboji make repairs!



On June 21-22, Northwest Iowa received a significant storm with an incredible amount of rain.

The rain made its way into some of our buildings on Camp, particularly in our newest cabin, Ezra, as well as Solomon and Genesis where some of our staff live, and most significantly into one of the primary retreat centers, Joppa Hall.

Additionally, we have received major damage to our docks, particularly those for the beach (pictured above). They have begun to warp and are still mostly under water.

Unfortunately, it's not prudent for Camp Okoboji to use our insurance to make repairs because of a large deductible and limited coverage, not to mention the premium increases in the longer-term. We've decided on repairing without, but we can only do so with your help. Anything will help.

[Will you prayerfully consider, as you are able, making a special gift to support our repair efforts at Camp?](#)

Thank you for your wonderful support of Camp Okoboji as we continue our ministry to campers and guests!

In Christ,

Adam Hengeveld

Executive Director

712-337-3325



Bible Quiz:

What musical instrument is mentioned in the final poem of Psalms as a means to praise the Lord?

- A. brass
- B. percussion
- C. strings
- D. woodwinds
- E. all of the above

Answer: E (See Psalm 150:3-5.)



July 1 Derek Euchner
July 2 Bret Warnke
July 3 Mary Corbin
Christin DeVine
July 4 Ruth Bennett
July 5 Nicole Madsen
Tim Wilcox
July 6 Abbie Corr
Pete Erzen
Allyson Schable
Daylynn Wilcox
July 7 Will Godbersen
July 8 Ellie Lansink
July 9 Dallas Hare
July 10 Karen Hammer
July 11 Judy Bubke
July 12 Levi Swanger
July 13 Debra Brosius
Luke Swanger
Hailey Wilcox
July 14 Russell Swanger
July 15 Jim Hausman
Adam Larsen
July 16 Bailey Barber
Christi Ladwig
July 17 Keith Hoffman
Charity Miesner

July 19 Brianna Ackerman
Becky Michaelson
July 20 Jonathan Madsen
Bill Wellendorf
July 21 Dustin Ackerman
Elaine Strong
July 22 Vicki Linman
Jeremiah Reitz
Shari Walter
Myra Wessel
July 23 Alvin Corbin
July 24 Jamie Corbin
Gwen Pfleeger
July 25 Roger Harrington
July 26 Taylor Bogue
Hunter Wessel
Walter Woebke 102
July 27 Jackie Hoffman
July 28 Ellen Schable
July 29 Makenzi Devitt
Casey Ludwig
Tina Madsen
July 30 Megan Ackerman
Tracy Johnson
July 31 Tammy Hoffman



July 2 Thomas & Coleen Russell
 July 5 Chad & Brandi Sharkey
 July 7 Clint & Megan Wellendorf
 July 12 Mark & Beth Euchner
 Ross & Christi Ladwig
 July 18 Bret & MaTrassa Maae
 July 25 DeWayne & Laurie Krayenhagen

Puzzle!

THE WATER OF LIFE

A cold drink helps us beat the summer heat. Complete this puzzle for a reminder of what Jesus offers to quench our thirst.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

" $\overline{6+6}$ $\overline{7-2}$ $\overline{9+11}$ $\overline{23-3}$ $\overline{12-4}$ $\overline{8-3}$ $\overline{9+6}$ $\overline{18-4}$ $\overline{1+4}$ $\overline{18+5}$ $\overline{10-2}$ $\overline{10+5}$
 $\overline{13-4}$ $\overline{12+7}$ $\overline{18+2}$ $\overline{1+7}$ $\overline{10-1}$ $\overline{20-2}$ $\overline{17+2}$ $\overline{8+12}$ $\overline{22+3}$ $\overline{1+2}$ $\overline{11+4}$ $\overline{15-2}$ $\overline{2+3}$;
 $\overline{0+1}$ $\overline{7+7}$ $\overline{9-5}$ $\overline{5+7}$ $\overline{8-3}$ $\overline{7+13}$ $\overline{5+15}$ $\overline{11-3}$ $\overline{4+1}$ $\overline{12+3}$ $\overline{5+9}$ $\overline{16-11}$
 $\overline{12+11}$ $\overline{10-2}$ $\overline{6+9}$ $\overline{10+13}$ $\overline{2+7}$ $\overline{12+7}$ $\overline{11-3}$ $\overline{1+4}$ $\overline{24-5}$ $\overline{11+9}$ $\overline{4-3}$ $\overline{6+5}$ $\overline{11-6}$
 $\overline{4+16}$ $\overline{5+3}$ $\overline{14-9}$ $\overline{9-3}$ $\overline{9+9}$ $\overline{2+3}$ $\overline{9-4}$ $\overline{15-8}$ $\overline{5+4}$ $\overline{7-1}$ $\overline{18+2}$
 $\overline{9+6}$ $\overline{10-4}$ $\overline{27-7}$ $\overline{4+4}$ $\overline{8-3}$ $\overline{18+5}$ $\overline{8-7}$ $\overline{6+14}$ $\overline{4+1}$ $\overline{13+5}$
 $\overline{6+9}$ $\overline{14-8}$ $\overline{7+5}$ $\overline{18-9}$ $\overline{2+4}$ $\overline{2+3}$ "

Revelation 22:17, NIV

Answer: "Let the one who is thirsty come, and let the one who wishes take the free gift of the water of life." Revelation 22:17, NIV