



# St. Paul News

St. Paul Lutheran Church

Ida Grove, Iowa

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**SEPTEMBER**

**2024**

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Does God care if the Cyclones lose to the Hawkeyes in football this year?

By Pastor Neil Wehmas

Saturday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, the Iowa State Cyclones football team will travel to Kinnick Stadium to face the Iowa Hawkeyes for the 71<sup>st</sup> installment of the annual Cy-Hawk football game. Many will be praying throughout this game. Praying for safe travel, praying for a good football game, and that the players would stay safe and healthy. Many will be praying that their favorite team will win. It might not be before the game, it might be during a key play that one prays that they get the first down, touchdown, or field goal. Whatever the case there will be much prayer.

This leads to a question: “Does God care who wins this football game?” For that matter does God care if the OABCIG Falcons win their games, or the Green Bay Packers or Minnesota Vikings? Does God care? The simple answer: “Yes”. However, he doesn’t care about it the way that we do.

We care because it is our team whose fortunes are on the line. When you start talking about high school football, it might be your son, grandson, student, or even yourself playing in the game. You most certainly have investment in the team and you want to win. However, God cares who wins, but not for the reasons we do.

This question seems trivial, but it causes to really think about our lives and reality in relationship to God. The reality is that before the foundation of the Earth God chose whom he chose for salvation. God works for the good of all those whom he has created. He orchestrated from before creation an incredible multitude of moments to bring about salvation. It boggles the mind to consider what it took to go from the Garden of Eden to Jesus born in the little town of Bethlehem.

What control and actions God has in who ends up the winner of a sports competition, I do not know. However, I can say with confidence that he is using those moments and events to orchestrate His will.

When a team wins or loses, it effects a multitude of people, who in turn impacts a multitude of people in their lives. If a team loses, this effects the players, the families of the players, the towns they represent. A great play or game can inspire one person yet humble another. It might open up opportunities for conversations that wouldn’t happen otherwise.

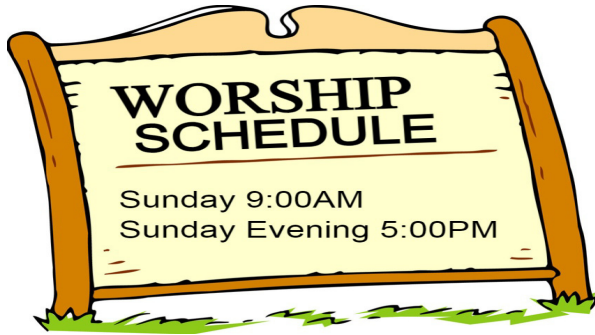
A team with a good season can lift the spirits of a city, one can’t help but think of the New Orleans Saints inspiring their city following Hurricane Katrina. Or the Iowa story of the Parkersburg football team following a devastating tornado.

The point of this exercise, God does care about your life. The things that seem so small and inconsequential, God uses for your good. The points in life that are devastating, even those moments, God is working for your good.

Life has so many moments. Life is filled with an incredible amount of joys. Life is filled with its share of griefs that quite often overshadow those joys. However, we know that God works through all of them, and give thanks and praise to God in peaks and valleys of life.

Why? Here is why: "If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 8:31-35, 37-39)

To God be all glory. In Jesus' name. Amen.



**For the month of August**  
9:00AM Rob Uhl family  
5:00PM Ron & Zanet Thies



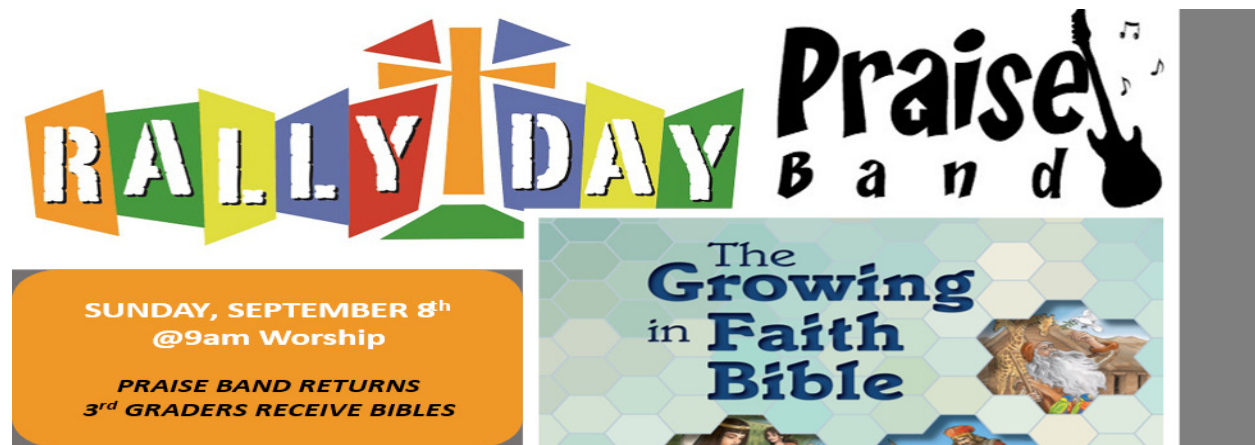
**COMMUNITY BASKET DONATIONS for September: Laundry/Kitchen items: laundry detergent, bleach, dryer sheets, fabric softener, dish soap, Clorox or Lysol wipes/spray cleaner,** place your donation in the shopping cart in the Narthex or hallway. All items are appreciated as well, as they can always use donations. The Community Basket is open on Thursdays (except 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday), from 2:30-5:30PM. **Mobile Food**

**Pantry: Battle Creek Fire Station on Thursday, September 19 from 4:30-5:30PM.**

**ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN** - Would you believe the bunker room at Iowa West Branch of Orphan Grain Train is EMPTY? We need good used clothing of ALL sizes, good used shoes, belts, purses, caps, gloves, warm scarves, sheets, pillowcases, blankets, quilts, comforters, medical equipment. NO pillows. We are open at our headquarters in Ida Grove on Tuesday mornings from 8-11 a.m. Sharon Ann Irwin, Iowa West Branch Manager, [jerryirwin2@gmail.com](mailto:jerryirwin2@gmail.com) 712-660-1380

**IWD LWML FALL RETREAT at Mission Central on September 28. Registration 8:30AM and program 9:00-1:30PM. See registrations on table in Narthex.** Lunch provided and registration fee is \$15.00. In-gathering for IOWAY, IDW Disaster Relief, Orphan Grain Train, Camp Okoboji and Mission Central (A container for you to donate the items will be in the narthex) some items needed: For OGT: pencil sharpeners, erasers, glue sticks, band-aids, sturdy combs, fingernail clippers, individual soap cases, 3-6 month old sleepers. For IOWAY: expo markers, construction paper, pre-sharpened pencils, Crayola crayons/markers, spiral notebooks or loose leaf paper, new children's tennis shoes: size 10.5-3 little kids(for 4-8 year olds) 3.5-7 big kid size (for ages 8 and up) small adult sizes for grades 4 & 5. Camp Okoboji & Mission Central: Walmart, Fareway, HyVee gift cards. Camp Okoboji can also use Menards gift cards.

CATECHISM INSTRUCTION FOR 7<sup>TH</sup> AND 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADES will start on Wednesday, September 4<sup>th</sup>, we will have a snack from 4:00-4:15PM and class will be over by 5:15PM.



SUNDAY SCHOOL will be for grades 4 year old preschool – 6<sup>th</sup> grades  
7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade will be included in Pastor Wehmas' Bible Class in the Fellowship Hall  
High School Youth will meet in Youth Room



CROSS EXPLORATIONS (MIDWEEK) FOR GRADES 3<sup>RD</sup> – 6<sup>TH</sup> will start on Wednesday, September 11<sup>th</sup>. Kids can walk up after school from the elementary school and we will have some activities for them and have snack at 4:00PM, class will be over by 5:00PM

WEDNESDAY PRE PACKAGED SNACKS ARE NEEDED, including string cheese, apples, cutie oranges. A container is available outside church office in hallway and can be dropped off at the church office  
Also a sign up sheet will be available if you want to bring homemade treats or special treats for a birthday, etc.

**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 white box in the Narthex, and they will be used as part of the worship services during the second Sunday of the month."

**ASK THE PASTOR – LAST SUNDAYS OF THE MONTH** "Have questions to ask Pastor Wehmas? He will attempt to answer a few questions as part of the services, during the last Sunday of the month. Submit your questions in the white box in the Narthex."

### **SOME OF YOUR OPTIONS FOR BIBLE STUDIES**

**WEDNESDAY EARLY MORNING BIBLE CLASS** meets at **7:00AM** Jimmy's

**WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS** meets from **9:30-10:30AM** in the Conference Room in the lower level.

**THURSDAY MORE THAN BREAD BIBLE STUDY** starts back up on Thursday, September 5 at **6:00PM** at Subway, we will be continuing our study on Revelation

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

**SUNDAY MORNING ADULT BIBLE CLASS** join us in the Fellowship Hall starting at **10:15AM**

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### **LWML LADIES BIBLE STUDY FOR SEPTEMBER**

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**RUTH (2)** will meet on September 5 at Jimmy's at noon and meet at the church for Bible Study at 1:00PM.. Linda will be BSL. We had 9 present for our August meeting.

**LOIS (3)** will meet on September 5 in the Conference Room at 1:30PM. Linda will be BSL and Mary will be hostess. We had 9 present for our August meeting.

**EUNICE (10)** will meet on September 5 at Willowdale Nursing Home, Battle Creek at 2:30PM. We had 5 members present for our July meeting.

**JOHANNA(12)** will meet on September 5 at 7:00PM, at the church. Karen will be hostess and Marge will be BSL. We had 4 present for our August meeting.

**LWML BIBLE STUDY LEADER'S MEETING** on Tuesday, September 17 at **1:00PM**

**LWML ZONE FALL RALLY** at St. John's Lutheran Church, Saturday, September 21<sup>st</sup>. Brunch at **9:00AM** with program to follow

**LWML EXEC. BOARD MEETING**

#### **LWML MITEBOX CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2024**

At the November 2023 meeting of the LWML Executive Board a decision was made about how the LWML Mite box contributions for 2024 would be distributed. The Executive Board decided to designate the funds from each quarter would go to the National LWML Mission projects and local mission projects in our community. The distribution of each quarter's funds will be one-fourth to the National LWML Missions and three-fourths of each quarter's contributions would go to local missions.

For 2024 the local mission distribution will be as follows:

1<sup>st</sup> Quarter will be supporting the Ida Grove Ambulance

2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter will be supporting the Ida Grove Fire Department

3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter will be supporting the Community Basket

4<sup>th</sup> Quarter will be supporting the Ida Grove Orphan Grain Train

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!



**THANK YOU FROM THE QUILTERS** to those who have given material, sheets and other bedding items to us to use for our quilting. *Remember to keep us in mind if you are “fall cleaning or downsizing” and would like to donate your items to us.*

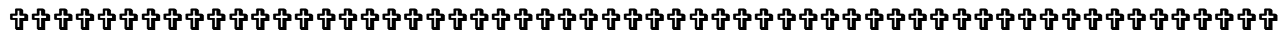
**ALSO** if you would like a lap robe for someone or for yourself please let us know or stop by to pick out one. They make great blankets as well for the end of your bed, to cover up cold feet or legs during the night, please reach out to the church, or Susan Miller.



**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](mailto: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](http://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

**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.



# SEPTEMBER

## Birthdays

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| Sept 1 Kurt Rehse<br>Victor Zobel (97 years old)                          | Sept. 14 Kristy Gilbert<br>Connie Jordan                               |
| Sept. 2 Hildie Harm<br>Becky Miller<br>Alyana Swanger<br>Amber Wilcox     | Sept. 17 Curtis Marth  |
| Sept. 3 Karen Bumann  | Sept. 19 Jaclyn Bogue<br>Angela Frank<br>Ginger Wych                   |
| Sept. 4 Corlys Boysen<br>Leila Prell                                      | Sept. 20 Christopher DeVine<br>Dustin Schiernbeck                      |
| Sept. 7 Chloe Jamison   | Sept. 22 Xander Devitt<br>Dan Dose<br>Trenton Gilbert<br>Kelton Ladwig |
| Sept. 8 Ember Arbegast<br>Clayton Ernst<br>Nancy Hasbrouck                | Sept. 23 Kinzie Bieret   |
| Sept. 9 Amy Godbersen   | Sept. 25 Justin Frank<br>Erin Marth<br>Marge Senhen                    |
| Sept. 10 Rod Jensen<br>Karen Lichtenberg<br>Dale Ullrich<br>Gailen Wessel | Sept. 26 Carter Montgomery   |
| Sept. 11 Darrell Bennigsdorf<br>John Brookbank                            | Sept. 27 Betty Hanson<br>Lyle Schumann                                 |
| Sept. 12 Hailey Johnson<br>Avery Schable                                  | Sept. 28 Deb Clausen<br>Kendra Corbin<br>Roger Frank                   |
|   | Sept. 29 Evan Hoffman<br>Larry Paulsen                                 |

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## Anniversaries

- September 4 Ed & Janice Nelson  
September 6 Dr. Carl & Janet Toben  
September 9 David & Karen Petersen  
September 12 Kendall & Nancy Schoen  
September 19 Nik & Madelyne Brimeyer  
September 20 Billy & Laura Carnine  
September 21 Tim & Amber Wilcox  
September 22 Seth & Jamie Corbin  
Trey & Katie Riessen  
September 24 Cordell & Barb Knudsen  
Pat & Kriss Phillips  
Dean & Julie Rath