



## St. Paul's Epistle

St. Paul Lutheran Church

1844 Highland Dr., Carroll, IA 51401

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Issue 6

### A Word from the Pastor ~

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

“... **speak the truth in love...**” (Ephes. 4:15)

The recent ruling by the Iowa Supreme Court that has brought about the legalization of “same sex marriage” in our state has heightened the need for those of us who view the Bible as the authoritative, inerrant Word of God to “speak the truth in love” as Paul admonishes us to do in Ephesians.

Speaking the truth in love is never an easy task for us miserable sinners and the task gets considerably more difficult with such a highly politically charged issue. I've certainly been giving this much thought lately and it has led to considerable discussion during a recent Bible class as well as at our most recent Circuit Pastor's conference. Pastor Ketcham (St. John Lutheran, Audubon) was instrumental in organizing a rally recently at the Audubon County Courthouse. This rally was extremely well organized and did an excellent job of lovingly speaking God's truth on this subject. News coverage of the event helped to spread that message through a Des Moines TV station and the Omaha World Herald.

While we won't all have the opportunity to be interviewed for a newspaper article or TV newscast, we will have opportunities to speak on the subject. Whether it's explaining the subject to your own children or a “water cooler” discussion at work the opportunities will be there. Many Christians may even find their conscience troubled should their line of work put them in a position of having to support “same sex marriage” (e.g.: working at the county courthouse issuing marriage licenses, or teaching in a public school when new curriculums begin to be enacted to educate our children on the subject).

I'd like to be able to give you a “cookbook” answer on precisely what to say, when to say it, and how to say it when the opportunity arises to “speak the truth in love” on this subject. But since such precision simply isn't possible, let me give you some guiding principles to help you formulate your response:

- 1) Know the truth, that is, be certain in your own mind that God does declare homosexual behavior a sin (see Lev. 18:22; 20:13; Rom. 1:24-27).
- 2) Know that speaking the truth of God's Law is vital if sin is to be recognized and confessed so that the healing power

of the Gospel might be received (see Rom. 3:20; 2 Cor. 5:18-21).

3) Know that many who stand in opposition to God's Law on this subject give no credence whatsoever to the authority of Scripture. Therefore your discussion may need to begin without reference to the Bible. Your starting point may be an appeal to so-called “natural knowledge” whereby it is evident that homosexual behavior is harmful both to individuals and to society in general. Or, you may begin with a basic confession of your faith, acknowledging that “all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God” and are in need of the free gift of redemption through Christ Jesus (Rom. 3:23-24).

4) The language with which you speak must be the “language of love.” This means much more than simply choosing your words carefully. It means that others must be able to see in you a genuine love and concern for them as individuals and for all people. It means a life that is shaped by the love you have received through the mercy of your Savior who gave His life on the cross for you.

This last point, learning to speak the “language of love,” will be the focus of our summer Sunday Bible class. In this class we will be studying the book, *Christ Have Mercy: How to Put Your Faith in Action*, by Matthew C. Harrison of LCMS World Relief and Human Care. In the words of Rev. Harrison himself, “This book is written with the conviction that mercy—the mercy of Christ to and for us—and *our demonstration of that mercy* to those within and outside the Body for Christ is the key to the future of the Church (p. 11, emphasis added).”

Points 1-3 all have to do with getting our theology straight—a necessary starting point. But if we do not speak the language of love no one will hear us. Through our study of Rev. Harrison's book we will learn this language so that we may be seen and known as a church, and as individuals, who truly “**speak the truth in love.**”

Please join us this summer for a very practical and timely study on the Mercy of Christ.

In His love,  
Pastor Licht

## From the Parish Nurse ~

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

June 5<sup>th</sup> is World Environment Day. In 1972, the United Nations established an international day of awareness of the importance of environmental issues. This year's topic, "Melting Ice—A Hot Topic", will be hosted by Norway and will address climate changes and the effects on ice and snow-covered areas of the world.

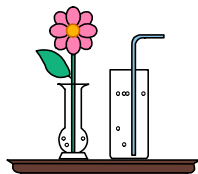
"Going Green" or "Think Green" has been an environmental topic that has been frequently reported in the news. The average person in the U.S. produces 3 to 4 pounds of trash per day. University of Arizona researchers have done landfill studies and have found 25 year old hot dogs, corncoobs, and grapes as well as 50 year old newspapers that were still readable. All of us need be more aware of the need to reduce and recycle our trash and be more our attentive to the environment.

Some suggestions to reduce waste and protect the environment include:

1. Watch water use. Fix a leaky toilet or faucet. Wash clothes in cold water when possible. Install a low-flow shower head.
2. Save gas and time by running errands together.
3. Follow recycling guidelines in your community. Buy products with least amount of packaging.
4. Compost kitchen waste that has been chopped or ground (to decompose faster) for the garden or outdoor plants.
5. Save energy by buying "Energy Star" appliances or home electronics. Clean air filters in home. Install a programmable thermostat for furnace and air conditioner use.
6. Maintain your car. Check tire pressure. Drive slower. Avoid excessive braking or acceleration.
7. Turn off lights in room and unplug appliances when not using them.

All of us are God's stewards when it comes to protecting the world he has given us to live in. May God bless the earth, the weather, and our natural resources in the years to come and for future generations.

In His Service,  
Darlene Rueter, RN  
St. Paul Parish Nurse  
[rrueter2642@msn.com](mailto:rrueter2642@msn.com)



## Human Care

**Human care for area residents is provided by:**

**FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER—712.792.6440**

**502 W 7th St., Carroll—1.800.999.5101**

**Email: [jrunning@carrollfrc.org](mailto:jrunning@carrollfrc.org) or**

**[lamowrey@carrollfrc.org](mailto:lamowrey@carrollfrc.org)**

**8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m. 5 days/week**

**Crisis Nursery: Program provides care & support to parents at times of great stress and thereby serves as a critical component in efforts to prevent child abuse. Nurseries offer a temporary, safe environment for children whose parents face emergencies or crises that make it hard for them to safely care for their children. Services are available to families at any time, and families can use them up to 72 hours at a time.**

## From the CDC website: What You Can Do to Stay Healthy—H1N1 Flu Virus

- Stay informed. This website will be updated regularly as information becomes available.
- Influenza is thought to spread mainly person-to-person through coughing or sneezing of infected people.
- Take everyday actions to stay healthy.
  - Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it.
  - Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze. Alcohol-based hand cleaners are also effective.
  - Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs spread that way.
  - Stay home if you get sick. CDC recommends that you stay home from work or school and limit contact with others to keep from infecting them.
- Follow public health advice regarding school closures, avoiding crowds and other social distancing measures.
- Develop a family emergency plan as a precaution. This should include storing a supply of food, medicines, face-masks, alcohol-based hand rubs and other essential supplies.
- Call 1-800-CDC-INFO for more information.

## Ready, Set, Recycle!"

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) of Iowa will host the 2015 National Convention in Des Moines! You can help our Guild earn funds to cover expenses by being a part of our "Ready, Set, Recycle" campaign. Bring the following recyclable items to church and place them in the box in the cloakroom off the Narthex or call Barb Brockelsby at 790-9592:

- Empty inkjet printer cartridges
- Empty laser printer cartridges
- Used cell phones
- Laptops, including power cords
- Palm Pilots (PDAs)

Please leave in original boxes if possible or place in plastic zip-lock bags. Thank you for your help.



### Circle Dates—

- Lydia:** Tuesday, June 9, 7:00 p.m.  
East Room, Janet Hoffman,  
hostess; Shery Reiter, topic
- Rachel:** Wednesday, June 10, 1:30 p.m.,  
Fellowship Hall, Louise Stoffers,,  
hostess; Pastor, topic



## LWML Convention

The LWML Convention is right around the corner! Between June 25-28, attendees of the 33rd Biennial LWML Convention will gather in Portland to be nourished by the Word, inspired with songs of praise, and encouraged in service to God and others through the many speakers and Convention activities. The delegates will have the awesome task of electing new officers, setting a new mission mite goal, and voting for important mission grant proposals. The LWML Store will offer new and exciting products, devotions, program materials and much more. Evergreen Park will be full of interesting and innovative exhibits.

Check [www.lwml.org](http://www.lwml.org) for up-to-the-minute updates and news during the convention. *Look to the Hills...God Reigns!* Pack those bags and we'll see you in Portland.

### ST. PAUL LUTHERAN WOMEN'S GUILD 1/1/09 – 5/18/09

	<u>BALANCE FWD</u>	<u>PLUS INCOME</u>	<u>MINUS EXPENSE</u>	<u>BALANCE</u>
Parish Nurse	\$ 10.91	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$10.91
Lydia Circle	93.39	61.00	90.00	64.39
Rachel Circle	140.00	20.00	0.00	160.00
Mites	0.00	140.37	140.37	0.00
Coins For Christ/Mites	(58.50)	38.11	0.00	(20.39)
Quarterlies	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Social Ministry	124.28	0.00	0.00	124.28
Gifts of the Heart	30.00	0.00	0.00	30.00
Hurricane Ike	55.00	0.00	0.00	55.00
<b>TOTAL RESERVES</b>	<b>\$ 395.08</b>	<b>\$259.48</b>	<b>\$230.37</b>	<b>\$424.19</b>
General Fund	248.14	535.00	355.00	428.14
<b>TOTAL CASH FUNDS</b>	<b>\$ 643.22</b>	<b>\$794.48</b>	<b>\$585.37</b>	<b>\$852.33</b>

## NOTES & NEWS

### *100th Birthday Open House*

*Amelia Vetter will be  
100 years old  
on June 1, 2009.  
An Open House will be held  
at the  
Arcadia City Hall on  
Sunday, May 31,  
from 2:00-4:00 p.m.  
or cards may be sent to  
119 Center Street  
Arcadia, IA 51430*

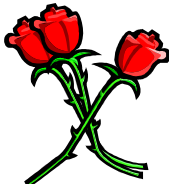
### **Little Lamb Preschool Registrations are Being Accepted**

Little Lamb Preschool registrations are now being accepted for the 2009-2010 school year. Children must be 3 by Sept. 15, 2009 and potty trained.

3 year old classes are Tuesday & Thursday  
8:00-11:00 a.m.  
Tuition is \$60 per month

4/5 year old classes are  
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday  
8:00-11:00 a.m.  
Tuition is Free

A Registration Fee of \$15 must accompany the Registration Form which can be found on the bulletin board by the Preschool Room or check with the church office. Call Durene Eisenbacher at 792-9455 if you have questions.



**Reminder: The July & August Newsletter** will be combined and the due date for articles and calendar dates is **June 15.**



**Vacation Bible School** is July 13-17, 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. for **4 year olds thru 5th Grade.** Cost is \$10. Registration Deadline is **Sunday, June 14.** Registration forms available at the church.



**A few Confirmation pictures** remain on the counter across from the church office. Please pick up your picture if you were confirmed this year.



**Softball Practice** begins Thursday, May 28, at Northside Park just south of the church. Everyone is welcome (in need of some more women). The practice begins at 6:30 p.m. The first game will be June 14 at the adult softball fields by the Carroll Stadium.

***Congratulations to  
Pastor John Schauer  
on the 40th Anniversary  
of his Ordination  
held on June 22, 1969.  
We pray that God will  
continue to richly bless  
Pastor & Laura Schauer.***

**The Passion Play of Oberammergau, 2010:** Pastor Michael Awe of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Tilden, NE, who served his vicarage at St. John Lutheran, Charter Oak & helped with the vacancy at St. Paul, Ute, invites you to join him and his wife, Suzy, on an exciting 11-day Alpine Tour, May 22-June 1, 2010. Enjoy the picturesque vistas of Switzerland, Austria, & Southern Germany and experience the famous Oberammergau Passion Play. Leave from Omaha and fly to Frankfurt, Germany. Cost is \$4099 which includes most meals, first class accommodations & round trip airfare from Omaha. Contact Pastor Awe at 402-368-9929 or 402-368-5690 or email [The1Rev@cableone.net](mailto:The1Rev@cableone.net)



## Lutherans For Life

### The Holiest Number?

What is the holiest number? Some say 7, for it is the number of God. Some say 777, for it is the holy Trinity as opposed to the unholy trinity of 666. It appears to me, however, that the holiest number is 501(c)(3). I came to that conclusion as I was pondering the possible answers to this question:

#### **What will it take to get the Church to rise up and boldly take a stand for God's truth?**

Will the Church rise up when the government takes away the right to life of the most vulnerable of our children?

Evidently not.

Abortion has been legal for 36 years. While some corners of the Church have voiced opposition from time to time, this opposition comes nowhere close to a united rising up of Christendom to stand on God's Word of Life and oppose this great evil. Besides, abortion is such a political issue, and we would not want to violate our 501(c)(3) status by talking about it in the pulpit.

Will the Church rise up when the government gives the right to homosexuals to marry and tells the Church they must bless same-sex unions?

Evidently not.

Homosexuality is acceptable to more and more denominations. Some have already blessed same-sex unions and have opened their pulpits to homosexuals. Besides, homosexuality is such a political issue. We might be charged with hate speech and lose our 501(c)(3) status if we address this in the pulpit.

Will the Church rise up when the government says we can no longer proclaim the Word of God?

Evidently not.

The Church has been the leader in removing the Word of God from herself. A six-day Creation, miracles, the virgin birth of Jesus, the bodily resurrection of Jesus--these and more have been relegated to a "take it or leave it" status. Many

"Christian" sermons have become "feel good" speeches offering at best mere morsels of morality. Besides such preaching would never run the risk of endangering our 501(c)(3) status.

Will the Church rise up when the government says we can no longer have 501(c)(3) status?

Oh yes!

Christendom would unite with such a loud voice that the granite blocks and marble dome of the U.S. Capitol would shake as if the San Andreas Fault had moved east. Sunday services would be cancelled so that congregations could travel in bus loads to Washington D. C. to lobby Congress. With a single voice the Church would demand its 501(c)(3) status so that it could continue to defend the truth of ... Hmmm? What truths would be left to defend, I wonder?

Now I hope you have been reading this tongue in cheek. I really do not believe that 501(c)(3) is the holiest number, and I am not advocating that churches give up their 501(c)(3) status. Indeed, tax-exempt status is a blessing in that it allows more funds to be used for sharing the Gospel. However, many hide behind this status and refuse to take a stand where God's Word clearly speaks. I thank God for LFL's 501(c)(3) status. But I also pray to God that we would never allow it to weaken our resolve to stand on, and proclaim, God's truth.

**"Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm"**  
(Ephesians 6:13 ESV).

Your servant For Life,  
Jim Lamb

#### **Camp Okobojo June 2009 Schedule ~**

June 7-9	Kids' Kamp
June 7-13	Okobojo Girls Basketball Camp
June 7-13	Okobojo Girls Volleyball Camp
June 7-13	Life Aquatic Camp
June 12-14	Family Bike Camp
June 14-20	Minnebojo
June 21-24	IDW Convention
June 26-28	Calm Down (Grades 9-12)
June 25-July 2	LCMS Servant Event
June 29-July 1	Jr. Joy Camp
June 28-July 4	July 4th Family Retreat

Go to [www.campokobojo.org](http://www.campokobojo.org) for more information.





## Worship Assistants for June

### LECTORS:

June 6 Pastor  
 June 7 Vicki Grundmeier  
 June 13 Pastor  
 June 14 Pastor  
 June 20 Pastor  
 June 21 Darlene Rueter  
 June 27 Pastor  
 June 28 Pastor

### GREETERS:

June 6 Max & Leona Sherwood  
 June 7 Lynette Licht  
 June 13 Reese & Jan Abbe  
 June 14 Harriet Schonberger  
 June 20 Bonnie Dryden  
 June 21 Ralph & Sharon von Qualen  
 June 27 Lisa Quandt & Sally  
 Sullivan  
 June 28 Jeff & Janet Hoffman

### ACOLYTES: (Sunday Only)

June 7 Devan Dryden  
 June 14 Cody Davis  
 June 21 Samantha Johnson  
 June 28 Paige Licht

### ALTAR GUILD:

Ina Rae Nieland, chairperson  
 Carolyn Dammann  
 Aimee Janssen  
 Sharon von Qualen  
 Shari Toft

### ELDERS:

June 6/7 Tracy Onken  
 June 13/14 Joe Eisenbacher  
 June 20/21 Mike Janssen  
 June 27/28 Scott Bauck

### SATURDAY USHERS:

Barb Brockelsby  
 Max Sherwood  
 Denis Schirck  
 Reese Abbe

### SUNDAY USHERS:

Jeff & Janet Hoffman  
 Duane & Jewel Proctor

### HIGH SCHOOL USHERS:

June 7 Peter von Qualen  
 Kelsey Wagner  
 June 14 Megan Anthony  
 Kayla Grundmeier  
 June 21 Jenna Licht  
 Alison Luft  
 June 28 Nick Nelson  
 Brandon Throckmorton

### APRIL ATTENDANCE

	Saturday	Sunday	Total
4/5	64	cancelled	64
4/12	47	145	
		245	437
4/19	82	145	227
4/26	105	110	215
<b>Avg.</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>236</b>

Sunday School Avg.: 29

Bible Class Avg.: 26

Total Communed: 763

Lenten Service Avg: 46—84 = 130  
 (4:00 service estimated—no Elder on duty)

Maundy Thurs.: 66—63 = 129

Good Friday: 92—64 = 156



### THE LUTHERAN HOUR

The Lutheran Hour may be heard on Sundays on the following radio stations in our area:

KAYL, 990 AM, Storm Lake,

10 am

KDSN, 107.1 FM, Denison,

6:30 am

KDSN, 1530 AM, Denison,

10:30 am

Also available 24 hours/day on the Internet @ [www.lhm.org](http://www.lhm.org)

Speaker: Rev. Ken Klaus

#### **June 7—Christianity Is Losing?**

The Christian Church has suffered reversals and setbacks. Is Christianity losing? (John 3:1-17)

#### **June 14—Walking by Faith**

The problem with living by faith is that all too often the focus of our faith proves unreliable. The risen Savior has proven Himself worthy of our trust. (2 Corinthians 5:7)

#### **June 21—Dress for Action**

Jesus is not just a Savior for women; the Church is not just an organization for the ladies. God encourages men and fathers to dress for action and stand for Christ. (Job 38:1-11)

#### **June 28—Outrageous Generosity**

God will meet our needs, but not our greeds. What a joy to know that in Christ we lack no good thing! Guest Speaker: Rev. Keith Grimm is from Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, LaVista, Nebraska. Pastor Grimm is International Pastoral Advisor of the International Lutheran Laymen's League. (2 Corinthians 8:1-5)

**Receive your church newsletter by email and save on paper!**

100 member households are receiving their newsletters by email. Sign up today by emailing Donna at [stpaul@stpaul-ia.com](mailto:stpaul@stpaul-ia.com)

**Delano & Linda Meyer—Missionaries in Ghana whom we support will be here at St. Paul Saturday, June 13, following the 5:00 p.m. service. Join us for a light meal & their presentation. Invite a friend!**

## St. Paul Lutheran Church

Missouri Synod  
1844 Highland Drive  
Carroll, IA 51401-3573

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

*A Christ-centered fellowship sharing the  
one thing needful.*

**Worship with Holy Communion**  
**Saturday—5:00 p.m.**  
**Sunday—9:00 a.m.**

**Sunday School & Bible Classes**  
**Sunday—10:30 a.m.**

**Pastor David Anthony**

**Pastor Brian Licht**

## St. Paul's Epistle—June 2009

### St. Paul Lutheran Church

**Phone: 712-792-4354**

**Fax: 712-792-0514**

**E-mail:**  
[stpaul@stpaul-ia.com](mailto:stpaul@stpaul-ia.com)

**Web Page:**  
[www.stpaul-ia.com](http://www.stpaul-ia.com)

**Little Lamb Preschool**  
**Teacher/Director:**  
Durene Eisenbacher 792-9455

**Church Office Secretary:**  
Donna Spaen 792-4354

### The Church Council—2009

<b>President:</b>	Dale Schmidt
<b>Vide-President:</b>	Ralph von Qualen
<b>Secretary:</b>	Shari Toft
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Brian Widdel
<b>Elders:</b>	Scott Bauck Larry Bayless Joe Eisenbacher Jeff Hoffman Mike Janssen, Chrnm Tracy Onken
<b>Deacon:</b>	Jerry Frehse
<b>Education:</b>	Aaron Pock
<b>Evangelism:</b>	Adam Schweers
<b>Finance:</b>	Lowell Stammer
<b>Human Care:</b>	Darlene & Ryan Rueter
<b>Older Adult</b>	
<b>Ministry:</b>	Larry Bayless
<b>Stewardship/</b>	
<b>Family Life:</b>	Tyler Dern
<b>Trustees:</b>	Marv Toft
<b>Youth:</b>	Talena Bauck