



St. Paul's Epistle
St. Paul Lutheran Church
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Mission in Mercy Outpost, 225 4th St., Thomas Plaza—Phone: 775-2262

Volume 41

JUNE 2011

Issue 6

A Word from the Pastor ~

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The season of Easter is coming to an end. After 40 days of giving many proofs of His resurrection, Jesus ascended into heaven. Here's how His ascension is described in the book of Acts:

And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven (Acts 1:9-11)."

The God who came down from heaven to take up human flesh has now taken that flesh with Him into the highest heights of heaven. Our human nature now sits enthroned at the right hand of God. To be at a king's right hand is to be in a position of power and authority—just as Jesus said, "*All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me (Matt. 28:18).*"

We often overlook this day in the Church Year because 40 days after Easter always lands on a Thursday. When you consider the significance of the God-Man, Jesus, taking our human nature into the throne room of God, it is most unfortunate that this day goes largely unobserved in Christendom. No other creature has been given such honor. Angels certainly see the glories of heaven and behold the heavenly Father's face (Matt. 18:10), but they remain as servants and messengers. Jesus did not take on their nature and elevate it to a position of authority as He has done for our human nature.

The perfect fellowship between God and man that was intended from the beginning has been restored in Christ. If our nature has been enthroned in heaven and fellowship between God and man perfectly restored, what could keep us from inheriting our heavenly home? What our Lord has accomplished he has accomplished for us, the ones with whom He shares a common nature.

This is certainly something worth celebrating and I hope many of you will be able to join us for our Circuit Ascension Service, Thursday, June 2 at 7:00 at Immanuel, Lidderdale.

As one Ascension hymn leads us to confess and sing:

*On Christ's ascension I now build
The hope of my ascension;
This hope alone has always stilled
All doubt and apprehension;
For where the Head is, there as well
I know His members are to dwell
When Christ will come and call them.*
(LSB 492)

In the name of our Ascended Lord,
Pastor Licht



**Circuit Ascension
Service
Thursday, June 2,
7 p.m.
Immanuel, Lidderdale**



Mission in Mercy Outpost

225 4th Street (Thomas Plaza)
Carroll, IA
Phone: 775-2262

From the time we developed the idea for our Mission in Mercy Outpost it was our intent to take the first two years as a learning opportunity. In that time we hoped to develop a better vision of the outreach opportunities such a mission could address as we strive to care for people in both body and soul as our Lord commands us. As the two year mark will be rapidly approaching at the end of this year and since Pastor Anthony's resignation has put a significant strain on our operational abilities, I have begun the process of reviewing our "lessons learned" and developing our future vision.

Below is a brief review of our history and some specific blessings and challenges identified at last month's Outpost leadership meeting. We will be continuing this discussion in the coming months with the intent of developing recommendations that will be consistent with the goals not only of those directly involved in this outreach ministry, but also with the goals of the congregation at large.

Please give this report your prayerful and thoughtful consideration and feel free to provide your input to this discussion with myself or any of the various leaders in the congregation.

In Christ's Service,
Pastor Licht

Blessings and Challenges from The Mission in Mercy Outpost:

This congregation officially opened the doors of our Mission in Mercy Outpost in downtown Carroll on January 3, 2010. The purpose of our Outpost is to share the Word of Christ through concrete acts of mercy. We intend to carry the light of Christ beyond the walls of our church building out into the everyday lives of people who are hurting—physically, emotionally, and spiritually.

In our first year of operation there were almost 3,000 contacts with individuals (this includes some of the same people contacted multiple times) and some 700 opportunities to share the Gospel. A weekly Bible study is conducted on Wednesdays and a Prayer Service is held every Sunday. A variety of human care needs have been met or supplemented, including such things as assisting with moves, providing transportation, getting cars repaired, temporary

hotel stays for homeless individuals or victims of domestic assault, and providing food and furniture to many who are in need. In addition to these things our Outpost serves as a "home" to four Alcoholics Anonymous groups, one Alanon group, and one Narcotics Anonymous group.

Daytime hours of operation are Monday through Thursday from 10 am to 4 pm. Volunteers cover these hours to be available to meet individuals seeking assistance either by phone or in person. Prior to Pastor Anthony's resignation in February of this year he also dedicated many hours to being available and meeting people at the Outpost.

Blessings

- Downtown location provides opportunities to meet people we would not otherwise encounter.
- Funding from grants, individuals, and other congregations has made it possible to operate with **no** impact on St. Paul's congregational budget.
- Volunteer and financial support is received from other congregations in our circuit.
- We have a core group of dedicated and caring volunteers who make it all possible.
- The Outpost has a positive reputation with the various social service agencies in our community.
- We are providing a unique service that no other agency or congregation offers.

Challenges

- Because our primary grant source (Ablaze) is being tapered off we will need to seek other funding sources.
- We need to recruit more volunteers to cover our hours of operation and avoid burning out our current volunteers.
- With Pastor Anthony's resignation we have a much diminished capacity to provide spiritual counseling.
- Our willingness to provide multiple types of assistance, while allowing great flexibility, also brings the challenge of determining what aid we are able to provide in any given situation. Developing a clearer vision and procedures to support that vision would assist us in responding to requests for aid.
- Developing stronger contacts with community social service agencies would assist us in validating the needs of those who seek our help, and allow us to better target our aid to areas of need not otherwise met by these organizations. But developing such contacts is difficult without the time of one dedicated leader.

Notes & News

Highway 71 Cleanup—Sunday, June 5, 10:25 a.m.

OK, this is kind of gross, kind of fun, it will be outside, a family friendly event, it will help our community and it will be a witness to our faith and hard work...and it involves pizza. What is it????

The Youth Board has invited the entire congregation to help clean up the ditches on Highway 71 North. That's the section that has our name on it as the ones who KEEP IT CLEAN. If you've ever done this before, you know it can be gross so bring some old clothes and gloves. We hope to have 25-30 persons helping so it won't take real long and we'll have pizza after we are done AND have washed our hands.

So, join us after church Sunday, June 5, at 10:25 so those who want have time to change into grubbies at St. Paul. This can be fun. Special prize for the gross-est object collected!!

A Door Offering will be held following both services that weekend to help cover the cost of the pizza.



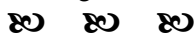
Men's Breakfast Table Talk will meet Saturday, June 11, from 8:30-10:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. All men and sons are welcome to attend. Breakfast is provided.



REMINDER: The July & August Newsletter will be combined and the due date for articles and calendar dates is **Monday, June 20.**



Organ Recital, Sunday, June 19, at 7:00 p.m. Featuring Trudy Faber, Professor Emerita of Music, Wittenberg University, Springfield, Ohio on the Dobson Organ, Opus 13, at Lake City Union Church, 206 W. Main St., Lake City, IA. The concert is free and open to the public. A freewill offering will be received at the door.



Mission in Mercy Outpost

Daytime/Walk-in Hours of Operation:

Mon –Thu, 10 am – 4 pm

Scheduled Activities:

Sundays: Prayer Service – 1145 am
 Mondays: AA meeting – 530 pm
 Tuesdays:
 Wednesdays: Bible Study – 4:30 pm;
 AA meeting – 530 pm;
 Single Mom's Group – 7 pm
 Thursdays: Alanon meeting – 530 pm;
 Fridays: AA meeting (Women) – 8 am
 Saturdays: AA meeting – 1030 am;
 NA meeting – 12 pm

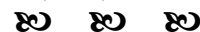
Vacation Bible School—Big Jungle Adventure, A Faith Journey with Jesus—

will be held July 11-15 from 8:30-11:30 a.m. for students age 4 years thru 5th Grade. Suggested donation is \$10 per child. **Registrations are due by Sunday, June 12.** Teachers and Helpers are also needed. Registration Forms and Volunteer Forms are available elsewhere in this Newsletter and in the Church Narthex. If you have questions, please call Belinda Richards at 792-3259, Cindy Naberhaus at 792-1196 or the church office at 792-4354.



RAGBRAI XXXIX will be coming to Carroll for an overnight stay on Monday, July 25. Help is needed to host more than 10,000 people that will be visiting our area. Hundreds of volunteers will be needed to perform a variety of activities. Go to www.carrollragbrai.com then go to the "volunteer" tab and download the form. If you do not have access to the internet, call the Chamber of Commerce at 792-4383. You will be notified about your duties, time and duty station at a later date.

If you are willing to host RAGBRAI Riders in your home, please download the form and return to the RAGBRAI Housing Committee or email RAGBRAI@carrolliowa.com or call Matt Greteman (792-5050) or (830-0637) or Doug & Sheri Wanniger (792-0325) or (830-7854).



Gift Cards for Mapleton: Supplies are still being collected for Mapleton tornado relief efforts through the end of June. The Board of Human Care has decided to participate in this project by having St. Paul members purchase Wal-Mart gift cards in any dollar amount. Gift Cards can be given to Darlene Rueter, another Human Care board member, or left at the church office. These cards will be sent to Ellie Menz who is coordinating collection of gift cards to buy supplies. Gift Cards will be collected until Sunday, June 12th. Thank you for your support of this special project.



Circuit Ascension Service Offering received on June 2 will provide Bible Sticks for our service men and women. Make checks payable to **Carroll Circuit LCMS**. You are also encouraged to bring supplies needed by the soldiers which will be shipped to them: Baby wipes, washcloths & towels, coffee & coffee filters, beef jerky & other dried meat, sunflower seeds, nuts, trail-mix, dried fruits, chocolates, candy bars, M&Ms, Chess sets, checkers, pocket size flashlights, AA & AAA batteries.

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.

Unacceptable items: Toner tubes/cartridges, Epson printer cartridges, Cannon BCI cartridges, Remanufactured cartridges, refilled cartridges or new unopened cartridges. Any cartridge that DOES NOT have a metal print head is unacceptable.



Circle Dates—

- Lydia:** Tuesday, June 7, 7:00 p.m.
East Room; Laura Schauer, hostess;
Sharon von Qualen, topic leader
- Rachel:** Wednesday, June 8, 1:30 p.m.,
Fellowship Hall, Pearl Kurth,
hostess; Pastor, topic





LUTHERANS FOR LIFE

God Only Adopts Sons

by Rev. Dr. James I. Lamb

“But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons” (Galatians 4:4-5).

The title to this piece may raise an eyebrow or two, particularly the finer and more attractive feminine brows. “More biblical male favoritism coming through,” some might say. Actually, it is just the opposite. It bestows a high honor upon women (and men) to be adopted by God as sons.

We find this honor expressed first in 4:6, **“And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts crying, ‘Abba! Father!’”** Jewish sons and fathers had a special relationship. Being adopted as God’s sons gives each one of us this special relationship. The Holy Spirit enables us to actually talk to God and address Him as Father. “Abba” is most likely Aramaic, and some say it is a more enduring and colloquial form of address. Whether it is or not, however, does not diminish the intimate rapport ascribed here to both women and men who, because they are adopted, can speak to God as Jesus did and call the Creator and Lord of the universe, Father.

Two points about the honor this verse gives to women come out in 4:7, **“So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.”** Being a son means no longer being a slave, “enslaved to the elementary principles of the world” (4:3b). When he comes of age, a son becomes “owner of everything” (4:1). No longer enslaved, he can be involved in choices about property and livestock and other business transactions. No longer enslaved, God’s adopted sons can make choices in Christ that are good and God pleasing.

Best of all, being a son means receiving an inheritance. In the Jewish culture of the Old Testament, the norm was that only sons received an inheritance. In Christ’s kingdom, all He adopts are like sons because they all receive an inheritance—eternal peace and joy. Paul makes the same point at the end of chapter 3, **“... there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you are Christ’s, then you are Abraham’s offspring, heirs according to promise”** (3:28b-

29).

Those who would use “children” or “child” to translate these verses may have good intentions of fairness toward women, but, in fact, they miss the entire point for using “sons.” In the process, they actually are being very unfair to women. All of us, women and men, are adopted and seen and treated as God’s sons. We are not even His “adopted sons” but through the adoption process of Christ’s death and resurrection being applied to us by the Holy Spirit, we are His true sons.

By way of example, Lowell Highby, LFL’s Director of Communications, went through a laborious adoption process and adopted his son, Alex, from Russia. But we do not refer to Alex as Lowell’s adopted son or his son from Russia but as his son, his true son.

So, ladies, if you must raise your eyebrows, do so in wonder and awe. No greater honor or blessing could be given you, or anyone, than to be called a son of God in Jesus Christ.

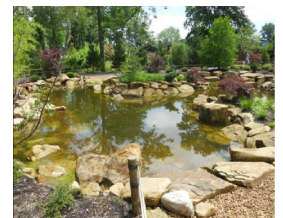


Lutherans For Life of Iowa invites you to visit the “Answers in Genesis Creation Museum” as we travel by bus to Petersburg, Kentucky August 8-11, 2011. The trip includes transportation by Windstar Motor Coach, 3 nights hotel stay, 2 days at the museum and planetarium show ticket. Cost: Single occupancy \$435 per person; Double \$325/person; Triple \$285/person; Quad \$265/person. \$100 deposit required with balance due by July 1.

To learn more about the Creation Museum, see the poster in the Church Narthex or visit www.creationmuseum.org

To make reservations or to learn more about the trip, contact Karen Frohwein, LFL of IA kfrohwe@hotmail.com or call 641.691.1884.

The Creation Museum is a one-of-a-kind, high-tech museum, filled with animatronic displays, state of the art planetarium, special effects theater, etc. spread out over 60,000 square feet, located on 49 acres.



From the Parish Nurse ~

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

June is Cataract Awareness month. A cataract is a clouding of the eye's lens, which blocks or changes the passage of light into the eye. The lens of the eye is located behind the pupil and the colored iris and is normally transparent. The lens helps to focus images onto the retina which transmits the image to the brain. Vision may become blurry or dim because the cataract stops light from properly passing through to the retina.

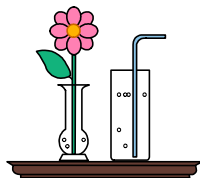
Cataracts are a leading cause of blindness among older adults in the United States. More than 20 million Americans age 40 and older have cataracts. More than half of all Americans have cataracts by the time they are 80 years old. Cataracts do not cause pain, redness, or tears. Common symptoms include blurry vision, colors that seem faded, the sense of a "film" over the eyes, glare, strong light seems "blinding", not being able to see well at night, and double vision. A change of eye-glass prescription may help initially but eventually does not improve vision. A cataract may look milky or yellowish spot in the pupil.

Risk factors for cataracts include older age, diabetes, smoking, alcohol use, and prolonged exposure to sunlight. Wearing sunglasses and a hat with a brim to block ultraviolet sunlight may help to delay cataracts.

A comprehensive dilated eye exam should be done at least once every two years. If cataract surgery is recommended, the cloudy lens is removed and replaced with artificial lens.

May God protect our vision to view His creation and serve one another. (Information taken from the National Eye Institute, Mayo Clinic, and Prevent Blindness websites.)

In His Service,
Darlene Rueter, RN
St. Paul Parish Nursing



Human Care

Human care for area residents is provided by:

Community of Concern, 203 S Hwy 71

They provide groceries for eligible applicants who have an emergency need for food, 792-5150

Department of Human services, 608 N Court

Provides economics programs, cash welfare payments, food stamps, medical assistance, Medicare reimbursements, service programs, adoptions, child day care, child protective assessments, foster home licensing, 792-4391.

Child Abuse Hotline, 1-800-362-2178

Lutheran Church Extension Fund

Be a Key Partner in LCMS Ministries

Lutheran Church Extension Fund investors are key partners in making a difference in the LCMS now and for future generations. Investment commitment to LCEF sustains the mission of building churches and supporting rostered church workers—an idea that started more than 100 years ago and is growing every day. To be a partner in ministry, call LCEF at 1-800-843-5233 or visit www.lcef.org for more information.

New Lower Rates at Camp Okoboji For Family Ministry Cabins

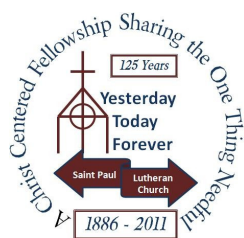
From May 31 to June 19 and Aug. 14 to Sept. 2, we are lowering the in-season rates for Family Ministry Cabins by approximately 25%. We are trying to fill the Camp to capacity this summer and have decided to offer lower rates during these time periods to fill the cabins. The new prices are posted on our website or you can call to check on availability and new rate. All cabins will be filled on a first come, first served basis. If you are looking for "a friendly, safe, refreshing, and relaxing Christian experience—an exceptional value for you and your family" plan your vacation with us today.

Camp Okoboji

1531 Edgewood Drive, Milford, IA 51351

Phone: 712.337.3325

www.campokoboji.org



**125th Anniversary
A Year of Celebration
Sharing the One Thing Needed
125th Anniversary Celebration
Weekend— October 8 & 9, 2011
Watch for details.**

Pictorial Directories: The directory has been submitted for publishing and will be available soon.

Stained Glass Window Books depicting the Life of Christ are available for a suggested donation of \$2.50. Contact Donna if you would like a book.

Anniversary Trivia Questions
Answers to last month's questions:

1. *When was groundbreaking held for our current church building?*
May 17, 1959; completed & dedicated 6/19/60
2. *When was groundbreaking held for the new east wing addition to the church?*
March 13, 1994; dedicated 4/9/1995

June questions (look for the answers in our History Timeline in the Fellowship Hall and in our next Newsletter)

1. *In the early 1880s before St. Paul Congregation was officially organized, where were services held?*
2. *How many families made up the charter membership of St. Paul when it was officially organized in 1886?*

Camp Okoboji 2011 Schedule

June 5—Camp Okoboji Benefit Brunch
 June 5-11—Okoboji Girls Basketball Camp
 June 5-11—Okoboji Girls Volleyball Camp
 June 5-11—Life Aquatic Camp
 June 12-17—Building Families of Faith Retreat
 June 12-17—Grace Place
 June 12-15—Calm Down Retreat
 June 17-19—Kids' Kamp
 June 18—Camp Okoboji Auxiliary Quilt Auction
 June 19-25—Minneboji
 June 26-July 2—LCMS Servant Event
 June 27-July 1—Jr. Joy Day Camp
 July 3-9—July 4th Family Retreat
 July 10-16—Jr. High Week
 July 14-17—Ginny DeWall Joy Camp
 June 27-July 1—Jr. Joy Day Camp
 July 3-9—July 4th Family Retreat
 July 10-16—Jr. High Week
 July 14-17—Ginny DeWall Joy Camp
 July 17-23—Concordia Cub Week
 July 24-30—Youth Week
 July 31-Aug. 6—Family Retreat I
 Aug. 7—Camp Okoboji Benefit Brunch
 Aug. 7-13—Family Retreat II
 Aug. 19-21—Hispanic Family Retreat
 Aug. 28—Camp Okoboji Benefit Brunch
 Sept. 18-20—IDW Lutheran Schools Outdoor Education
 Sept. 25—Camp Okoboji Benefit Brunch
 Sept. 26-Oct. 2—Fall Volunteer Week
 Nov. 10-12—Hunting Retreat
 Nov. 11-12—Fall Women's Retreat
 Dec. 2-4—Family Advent-ure
 Dec. 30-Jan. 1—FREEZE

Go to www.campokoboji.org or call 712.337.3325 for more information on all of the above events at Camp Okoboji, 1531 Edgewood Drive, Milford, IA

Worship Assistants for June

LECTORS: (Sunday Only)

June 5 Joe Eisenbacher
 June 12 Pastor
 June 19 Pastor
 June 26 Brian Kuhlmann

GREETERS:

June 4 Susanne Brotherson
 June 5 Ina Rae Nieland
 June 11 Pat Beck
 June 12 Randy & Pam Stanzyk
 June 18 John & Donna Spaen
 June 19 Merle Holmes
 June 25 Doug & Gaye Beckman
 June 26 Jeff & Janet Hoffman

ELDERS:

June 4 Larry Bayless
 June 5 Larry Bayless/
 Leon Schoenfeld
 June 11 Aaron Poock
 June 12 Aaron Poock/
 Joe Eisenbacher
 June 18/19 (to be determined)
 June 25/26 (to be determined)

ACOLYTES:

June 5 Jamie White
 June 12 Journee Kajewski
 June 19 Peyton Raymond
 June 26 Gabi Howard

ALTAR GUILD

Ina Rae Nieland, Chairperson
 Aimee Janssen
 Sharon von Qualen
 Rosemary Beckman

Christian Fiction Book Club
 will meet Sunday, June 19, in the
 East Room at church at 7:00 p.m.
 We will discuss the book Back
 Home Again by Melody
 Carlson. Everyone is
 welcome.



5-8 GRADE USHERS

June 5 Mariah Clausen
 June 12 Kara Lorenzen
 June 19 Miles Millard
 June 26 Justin Mohr

SATURDAY USHERS:

(from last year's list)
 Doug Beckman
 Bonnie Dryden
 John Spaen

SUNDAY USHERS:

(from last year's list)
 Duane & Jewel Proctor
 Jenna Licht

Happy Father's Day!

Electronic Giving

We encourage you to look into our electronic giving program. It's convenient for you and provides much-needed donation consistency for the church. It's easy to sign up and there is no charge. You may have your donation withdrawn from your checking or savings account either weekly on Monday; Semi-monthly on the 1st & 15th; Monthly on the 1st or Monthly on the 15th—minimum donation \$5.00.

To sign up, contact Donna in the church office for an authorization form, complete it and return to Donna with the appropriate attachment. She will take care of the enrollment which remains in effect until you decide to change it. You may change the amount, date of withdrawal, account, or cancel completely at any time by contacting Donna.

Offering Plate Cards are available on the display cabinet in the Narthex for those wishing to visibly put something in the offering plate.



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.lutheranhour.org
 Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz

June 5—What's in a Name?

What's in a name? In the name of Jesus, there is God's holiness. Jesus is the public name of God's grace for a sinful world. (John 17:10-11)

June 12—That's the Spirit!

When God's Word leads you to realize that you are thirsty for His grace and that Jesus alone can quench your thirst, that's the Spirit at work! (John 7:37-39)

June 19—A Father's Love

Jesus taught us to pray to the God of the universe: "Our Father..." He meets our greatest need: to be reconciled to God the Father, our Creator. (Matthew 6:9)

June 26—Snake-Oil Salesmen - Rev. Dr. Ken Klaus

We are bombarded by so many falsehoods we sometimes despair of finding something, anything to believe. Pastor Klaus speaks God's truth: the salvation that comes to us through the Savior. (Jeremiah 28:9)