

# St. Paul Epistle



April 2026

# St. Paul Lutheran Church

**We are broken and blessed followers of Christ,  
providing a home for all who wander the weary road.**

Pastor Jonathan Crawford: (563) 556-7637

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2025 Jackson St.

Dubuque IA 52001

Office Hours: M-F, 9:30am - 1:30pm



**stpauldbq.com**

**Follow us on Facebook**

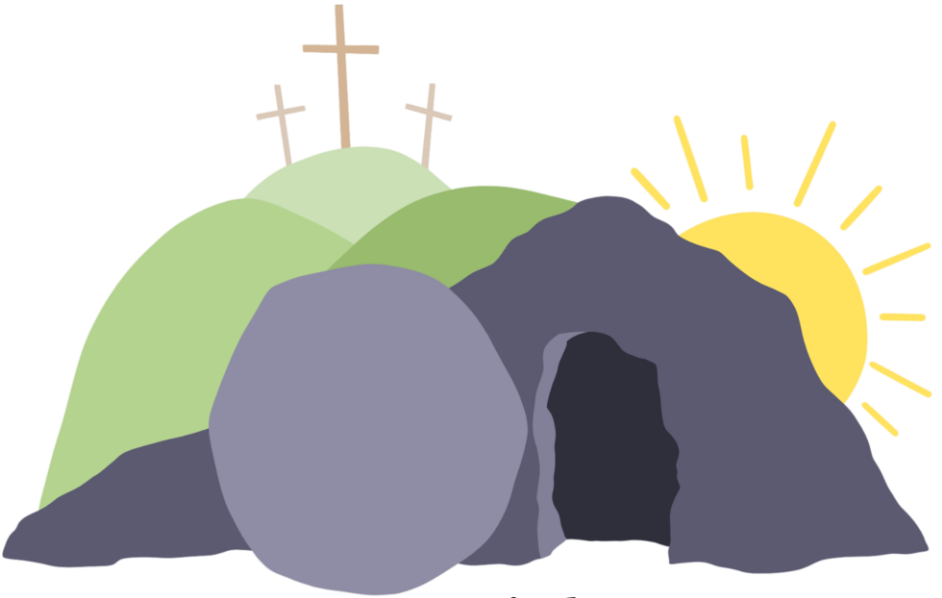
Weekly Services:

Saturday Worship: 5:30pm - Sunday Worship: 9:00am

Bible Class & Sunday School 10:30am

## **DATES TO REMEMBER IN APRIL 2026**

Apr 2	Ruth Circle 10:00am
Apr 2	Maundy Thursday Service w/communion 7:00pm
Apr 3	Good Friday Service 7:00pm
Apr 4	Easter Vigil Service with First Communions 7:45pm
Apr 5	Sunrise Service at Arboretum 6:30am
Apr 5	Easter Festival Service 10:00am
Apr 7	Board of Elders Meeting 5:30pm
Apr 7	GriefShare Support Group 6:00pm - 8:00pm
Apr 9	Brown Bag Bible Study 12pm - 1:30pm
Apr 12	Confirmation Sunday 9:00am
Apr 13	Mission Circle Meeting 6:00pm
Apr 14	GriefShare Support Group 6:00pm - 8:00pm
Apr 14	Board of Education Meeting 7:00pm
Apr 21	GriefShare Support Group 6:00pm - 8:00pm
Apr 23	Brown Bag Bible Study 12pm - 1:30pm
Apr 27	Golden Age Euchre Club w/chicken 12:30pm
Apr 28	GriefShare Support Group 6:00pm - 8:00pm



Alleluia!  
Christ is Risen!  
Happy Easter to all!

See you in church as we celebrate our Risen Savior!  
Pastor Jon



## WITNESS

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### WOMEN OF ST. PAUL

Thank you so much to the people who came to clean the church on Monday, March 9th. It looks and smells so nice and is ready for Easter. Thank you to Mark Litka, Misty Lutz, Angela Osterkamp, Nancy and Tammy Henry, Dan Rusch, Charlotte Tigges, Misty, Joe, JJ and Gabe Strangel, Janet Smith, Martha and Roger Driscoll. Thank you again everyone. Many hands make like work. Hopefully I didn't forget anyone. Nancy Henry

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## MERCY

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**The Salvation Army Food Pantry** - For the month of **April** we are collecting the following items for the Food Pantry:

Rice	Brownie Mix	Ketchup	Pancake Mix
Sugar	Dish Soap	Bath Gel	Garden Produce
Lotion	Ramen Noodles	Syrup	Liquid Hand Soap

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## LIFE TOGETHER

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### UPCOMING BIBLE STUDY TOPICS

- **Lutheranism 101** - Meets Mondays from 9am - 10am in Pastor's office. All are welcome.
- **Sunday Adult Class:** Book Study "Worshiped & Glorified" a study of the Nicene Creed
- **Brown Bag Bible Study** - Brown Bag Bible Study will be April 9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> at 12pm bring a lunch. Coffee and dessert provided.

### PASTOR'S SCHEDULE FOR APRIL

Days off - April 6<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>

## OFFICIAL ACTS - MARCH 2026

**Baptisms:** None

**Junior Confirmation:** None

**Adult Confirmation:** None

**Weddings:** None

**Transfer In:** None

**Transferred Out:** None

**Funeral/Memorial:** *Donald William Howes - February 28, 2026*



**ALTAR FLOWERS UPDATE:** The 2026 flower chart is now out in the fellowship hall. The cost remains at \$30 with payment made to St Paul and ear-marked "flowers" at the time of sign up. Put the payment in envelopes provided with necessary information filled in, and place in the offering plate. Please check if you will take after Sunday service or

leave for shut ins. We continue to ask you to return the glass bowls for reuse. Questions-Charlotte Tigges 563 599 2745.



**ALTAR GUILD!** There is currently a great need for altar guild helpers. There is a sign up sheet in the fellowship hall if you are interested.

**MAY NEWSLETTER** info is due by **FRIDAY APRIL 24<sup>TH</sup>**

**RUTH CIRCLE:** We need your Help. In order to keep this circle going, stop by our display of cards and stock up. We have cards for all occasions. The cost is \$1.00 per card or a box of 12 cards for \$7.00 The proceeds from the card sales go to cleaning the Pastor's vestments and purchasing the altar linen. We have the following boxes of cards available: Graduation, Confirmation, Birthday, Anniversary, Thinking of You, Get Well, Sympathy, Wedding, and Christmas. The next meeting will be Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10:00am.

**QUILT FABRIC NEEDED!!** Our Cover Girls project is in need of fabric to continue making quilts for Lutheran World Relief. If you personally, or if you know of someone who may have such material sitting in their closet or basement, we would appreciate putting it to good use! We could also use cotton bed sheets for the quilt backs. For questions or further information, contact Charlotte Tigges at 563 599-2745.

## BOARD OF MISSION & MINISTRY

**GOOD NEIGHBOR FUND:** Please feel free to designate an offering to the Good Neighbor Fund to help meet the needs of our church family and neighbors in their time of challenge.

## BOARD OF ELDERS

**WORSHIP:** We have been examining ways to make our worship more welcoming and accessible and to offer our members opportunities to serve in the church. In addition to recent changes to our policy on readers for worship, we are working to restart the altar guild and to return to our pre-COVID practice of having ushers and greeters in our worship services. A training workshop was held in March.

**STATEMENT OF COMMUNION POLICY AND PRACTICE:** The elders have spent considerable time during recent months seeking to understand what the scriptures suggest about faithful communion policies and practices. To this end, we have read and discussed the statement of the LCMS Commission on Theology and Church Relations on "Admission to the Lord's Table" and have had an extensive conversation (via Zoom) with the Rev. Dr. Joel Biermann, Professor of Systematic Theology at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. Our next step will be to examine our weekly bulletin statement regarding our communion practice to see whether it can be revised to be clearer and more effective in defining our beliefs about communion, especially with an eye to how we communicate to guests in worship.

**CHILD SAFETY POLICY** – The Education Committee has pointed out that we really should have a policy to ensure that everyone who works with children at St. Paul has been properly vetted. Dave Kelley has been researching details for a Child Safety Policy, which is available through our insurance company. Once this is put in place, we will need to create a small group who will be charged with vetting volunteers through questionnaires and background checks.

**GRIEFSHARE:** No matter what the circumstances, grief is a painful and long process. St Paul is again holding a GriefShare support group for people dealing with the death of a family member or friend. GriefShare is a safe, welcoming place where people understand the difficult emotions of grief. Over the weeks, you'll find relief and comfort as you learn what to expect in the days ahead and how to navigate your personal grief process. Since there are no neat, orderly stages of grief, you'll learn helpful ways of coping with grief, in all its unpredictability—and gain solid support each step of the way.

Topics include how to manage grief-related emotions such as loneliness, anxiety, sadness, anger, and regret; how to cope with the changes in your life and relationships; how to recognize what's normal in grief; and what to do if you feel stuck or hopeless.

At a weekly GriefShare meeting, you will view a video featuring respected counselors, teachers, and healthcare professionals on grief-related topics. After that is a small-group discussion for sharing, support, and personal application of what you learned on the video. You will receive a book to take home filled with valuable exercises for navigating your personal grieving process. Please join us and/or share this information with someone you know who could benefit: Tuesday evenings, April 7 - May 19, 2026 from 6-8 PM at St. Paul Lutheran, 2025 Jackson St.



For more information and to register visit <https://find.griefshare.org/groups/283674>

# Notes + News from the **Board of Christian Education**

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## Vacation Bible School

**June 7-11, 2026 | 6-8pm** (supper at 5:30)

Age 3 (potty trained) - completed 5th grade

At Rome, everyone gets to explore first-hand the culture of Paul's world. You'll experience the trials, victories, and celebrations of this unique Bible hero. God's Word comes alive as families enjoy traditional Bible-times customs, occupations, food and even games! **To register, visit [tinyurl.com/stpaulvbs2026](https://tinyurl.com/stpaulvbs2026)**



## OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE + BE INVOLVED

### Week of VBS:

- **Family (group) leader** - low/no prep, a friend + helper who guides kids through VBS
- **Marketplace shopkeeper** - some prep, leads small groups of students through a specific project (flexible if not available the whole week)

### Behind-the-scenes prep:

- **Set-up day - June 6, 9-11 am** Clean out key spaces, decorate, set up marketplace tents
- **Supply donations** - Check out displays in the fellowship hall or the online registry [myregistry.com/giftlist/stpvbs2026](https://myregistry.com/giftlist/stpvbs2026) for needed items!

**VBS Team Meeting | Wednesday, May 27 at 6 pm**

Have questions or would like to be involved? Connect with **VBS director Brianna Fry** (563.581.6773 or [frybrianna@gmail.com](mailto:frybrianna@gmail.com))!

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**NEXT MEETING:** April 14, 2026 | 7 pm, location TBD

**Questions?** Connect with Katy Crawford ([katy.munson@gmail.com](mailto:katy.munson@gmail.com), 815.876.6426) or Kendra Lafrenz ([kendrag897@gmail.com](mailto:kendrag897@gmail.com)) if you have any questions or would like to be involved!



# April ANNIVERSARIES

2-Ron & Vicky Schap      12-Dave & Sue Krause  
24-Joe & Misty Stangl      27-Jeff & Sheila Zasada

# april BAPTISMS

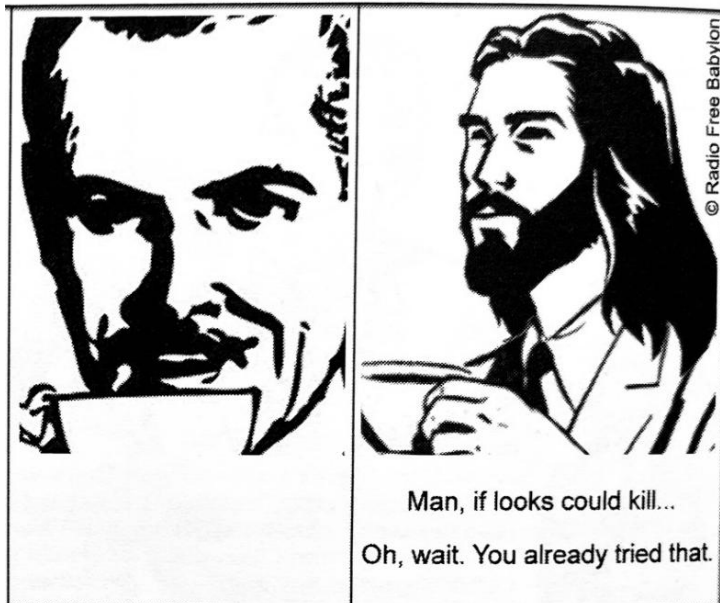
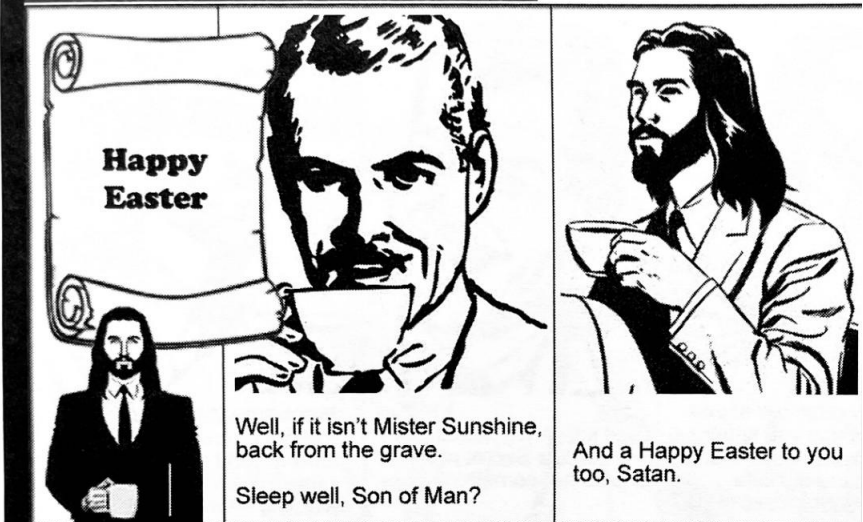
2-Bob Kalvelage                      2-Doris Remington                      5-Tamra Weland  
9-Katy Crawford                      12-Shirley Calonder                      13-Mark Litka  
14-Elleanna Clark-Adams                      14-Marlene Weber                      16-Linda Ayers  
16-Ruth Barz                      16-Sue Hass                      16-Bryn Kelly  
18-Sue Grutz                      19-Gabe Johnson                      20-Dennis House  
20-Angela Osterkamp                      21-Michelle Fanter                      22-Brandon Zasada  
25-Sandi Hiris                      27-Dr, Heyo Tjarks



# April BIRTHDAYS

2-Sue Grutz                      6-Salem Oliver                      8-Pastor Jon  
8-Debra Spear                      12-Allison Calonder                      13-Dan Pergande  
15-Lisa Miller                      16-Wendy Schickel                      17-Jaxson Taylor  
19-Martha Driscoll                      24-Jacob Hiris                      26-Alan Calonder  
29-Tom Unsen                      30-Annika Crawford

# RESURRECTION SUNDAY



## WE REMEMBER THOSE WHO HAVE DIED IN APRIL

Lynn Wehrspann	Harlan Knuth	Mary Wenke
Ron Hiris	Kelli Howes	Connie Baker
Jim Tegeler		

### PRAYER LIST FOR APRIL 2026

Mindful of the Father's great mercy shown to us in Jesus, we pray on behalf of those who are in need.

#### ***For those undergoing cancer treatment:***

Roger Riechmann (father of Teri Riechmann & Sheila Zasada)  
Jayme Niemeier (nephew of Dave & Sue Krause)  
Raymond Kruser (brother-in-law of Dave & Sue Krause)  
Zeke Pergande (son of Dan & Doris Pergande)  
Mark Geothschius (brother of A.J. Osterkamp)  
Toni Jo Stelpflug (niece of Doris Pergande)  
Brittni Strege (niece to Richard & Kim Weed)  
Rhonda Kittle (sister-in-law to Greg Kittle)  
Matthew Kittle (brother of Greg Kittle)  
Jerry (family friend of Richard & Kim Weed)  
Kenny Stelpflug (brother of Doris Pergande)  
Kevin Engler (brother of Nancy Clark, Sr.)  
Becky O'Connor (former Dubuque Lutheran School teacher)  
Dan Pergande, Debra Spear, Richard Weed, Jill Adams,  
Jim LuGrain

#### ***For our members who are homebound:***

Laverne Ball (Jackson Ridge, Maquoketa), Nancy Clark,  
Jean Henningsen (Sunnycrest Manor), Doris Pergande, Dusty Colby,  
Judy Pergande, Jayson Eichman (Harmony), Damaris Eichman,  
Jan Anderson, Dick Kokemiller (Luther Manor)

#### ***Additional Prayer Requests: None***

- Joseph Maus (co-worker of Teri Riechmann & Nicole Oliver)
- Kristie Fry

*\*Note: The "additional" section of the prayer list will be cleared at the beginning of each month. If you would like a name to remain on the list into the next month, please contact the church office and we would be happy to continue praying for your intention.*

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR APRIL 2026

	<b>Thurs, Apr 2, 7:00pm</b>	
<b>Head Usher:</b>	Mark Litka	
<b>Altar Guild:</b>	N/A	
<b>Organist:</b>	David Pitt	
	<b>Fri, Apr 3, 7:00pm</b>	
<b>Head Usher:</b>	Dennis Fry	
<b>Organist:</b>	David Pitt	
	<b>Sat, Apr 4, 7:45pm</b>	
<b>Head Usher:</b>	Dave Kelley	
<b>Altar Guild:</b>	N/A	
<b>Organist:</b>	David Pitt	
	<b>Sun, Apr 5, 6:30am Sunrise Service - Arboretum</b>	
<b>Head Usher:</b>	Dennis Fry	
<b>Organist:</b>	David Pitt	
	<b>Sun, Apr 5, 10:00am</b>	
<b>Head Usher:</b>	Jon Barz	
<b>Altar Guild:</b>	N/A	
<b>Organists:</b>	David Pitt	
	<b>Sat, Apr 11, 5:30pm</b>	<b>Sun, Apr 12, 9:00am</b>
<b>Head Usher:</b>	TBD	TBD
<b>Altar Guild:</b>	N/A	
<b>Organist:</b>	David Pitt	David Pitt
	<b>Sat, Apr 18, 5:30pm</b>	<b>Sun, Apr 19, 9:00am</b>
<b>Head Usher:</b>	Jon Barz	Greg Kittle
<b>Altar Guild:</b>	N/A	N/A
<b>Organist:</b>	David Pitt	David Pitt
	<b>Sat, Apr 25, 5:30pm</b>	<b>Sun, Apr 26, 9:00am</b>
<b>Head Usher:</b>	Dennis Fry	Jon Lutz
<b>Altar Guild:</b>	N/A	N/A
<b>Organist:</b>	David Pitt	David Pitt