

MEMBER CELEBRATIONS

Happy Birthday to our Members

February Birthdays

2 - Ray Scholl - 84	11 - Betty Magee - 101	21 - Tom Shane - 83
2 - Ila Nelson - 86	15 - Jean Stevens-Hughes - 80	26 - Howard Junker - 82
3 - Gloria Mills - 89	16 - Sharon Van Lengen - 87	26 - JoAnne Thomas - 83
4 - Duan Bohlen - 88	19 - Elmer Murman - 94	27 - Aletha Bennett - 96
5 - Larry Wilson - 85	21 - Hugh Nehls - 80	27 - Elvera Winbolt - 92
9 - LaVerna Petzoldt - 89		

March Birthdays

2 - Ardyce Biede - 92	14 - Shirley Kingsley - 81
3 - Mary Wood - 89	15 - Nina Jensen - 108
4 - Marilyn Duensing - 80	15 - Wayne Timm - 87
7 - Dave Cure - 80	21 - Helena Wilson - 83
7 - Lucille Watts - 88	26 - Philip Sweet - 89
8 - Arlen Sealock - 87	30 - Donna Kerr - 82

Happy Anniversary to our Members

February Anniversaries

1 - Nathan and Nicole Gengenbach - 1997	15 - Alan and Connie Hoagland - 1975
2 - Gregory and Ann Auten - 1980	18 - Randy and Kathy Uhrmacher - 1994
8 - Thomas and Susan Riggs - 1975	19 - Daniel and Nancy Yurk - 1977
12 - John and Patricia Boltz - 1983	24 - Benjamin and Andrea Engel - 1996
14 - Victor and Mary Beaty - 1978	*26 - Robert and Jan McGovern - 1999
14 - Robert and Coleen Dygert - 1965	28 - Matthew and Michelle Roesener - 1992
14 - Tom and Debra McCoy - 1975	

March Anniversaries

2 - Richard and LeAnne Blau - 1985	14 - Jay and Sara Schutte - 1998
8 - Al and Val Erickson - 1975	15 - Ronald and Dena Hohlen - 1986
10 - Larry and Donna Harrenstein - 1973	22 - Kevin and Jane Bruntz - 1997
14 - Dean and Sheila Thompson - 1997	22 - Terry and Jodi Shuck - 1986

* milestone anniversary - 25th and 50th

Journal of Life and Growth

(November 1 - December 31, 2023)

Baptisms

Ivey James Turner on 12/23/2023

Marriages

Carson Wyatt & Hannah Fleischer on 11/4/2023

Transferred to Church Triumphant

Arvid Stalsberg on 11/17/2023

JoAnn Mertens on 11/28/2023

Mary Giesler on 12/11/2023

Keith Woodward on 12/21/2023

Chuck Sears on 12/27/2023

Esther Hoagland on 12/30/2023

Vol. 91

FIRST ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
FEBRUARY/MARCH NEWSLETTER

No. 2 & 3

FIRST CONNECTIONS

Holy Lands Tour

JOIN US FOR THE TRIP OF A LIFETIME!
WE ARE BRINGING THE HOLY LANDS TO YOU!
40 DAYS OF LENT BEGINS ON FEBRUARY 14TH
ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES 12:10 PM & 7:00 PM

Wednesday Lenten Drama Series

We are looking for actors...no memorization needed!
Call Ann Auten if interested! (402) 469-2191

Bus Itinerary!

6:00 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.
Pre-Tour begins on
Wed. Feb. 21st
"The Temple"
(Founders Hall)

Slides and historical
facts about each site.

7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Travel to the
Sanctuary to continue
your Holy Lands Tour.

"United, We Live God's Will"

IN THIS ISSUE:

Dear Members of First St. Paul's,

Lent begins on February 14th with two Ash Wednesday services. One at 12:10 p.m. and the other at 7:00 p.m. Each week we will be led by "tour guides" on an imaginary visit to the Holy City in the year A.D. 30. Our pre-tour guide, Ann Auten, will offer historical, cultural and religious commentary on the sights we will be seeing in Founders Hall beginning at 6:00 p.m. As our second tour guide (Pastor Joel) leads the tour, we shall "accidentally" be confronted with the events of our Lord's Passion as they occur. For example, on our temple tour the first week, we will overhear Judas plotting with the priest to betray Jesus, and be present when our Lord comes in to cleanse the temple.

We will offer a modified Ichthus schedule beginning February 14th. PreK-6th grade programming will continue from 6:00-6:45 p.m. Grades 7th & 8th will now start at 6:00 p.m. and then attend the Lenten service as a requirement for Confirmation. The 8th graders will assist in the services.

All Lenten Wednesday services will be live streamed on Facebook. We invite our members to bring non-perishable food items to help our local Food Pantry. Our Judas Purse offerings are going to support Tartu Academy of Theology and Home of Hope in Estonia. Come join us on our Lenten Journey!

In His Love and Mercy,
Joel Remmers, Senior Pastor

WORSHIP
*OPPORTUNITIES

ADULT MINISTRY
*LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

KIDS MINISTRY
*WINTER PROGRAMS

YOUTH MINISTRY
*WINTER PROGRAMS

MISSION
*OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

CALENDAR

MEMBER CELEBRATIONS





WORSHIP


Questions?
Contact: Ann Auten (402) 469-2191
Director of Worship & Music



Sunday Worship Opportunities



 **Wear your favorite football jersey to services on February 11th!**
Soup Pots will be passed during all services for a special offering to support Crossroads and the Hastings Food Pantry! 

Lenten Services - Special Music
February 14th - Adult Choir
February 21st - Randy Kort & Ann Auten
February 28th - Cherubs & Joyful Noises
March dates are available - Call Ann if interested!

 **Let's eat CAKE!**
New Member classes take place on March 3rd, 10th, and 17th.
On March 24th, New Members will be received into the church.
Please attend a cake reception between services to welcome new members to our church family!

 **Palm Sunday - March 24th**
Adult and Bell Choirs - 8:25 a.m.
Cherubs and Joyful Noises - 10:35 a.m. 

Holy Lands Itinerary - Wednesdays

February 21 - First Stop
THE TEMPLE

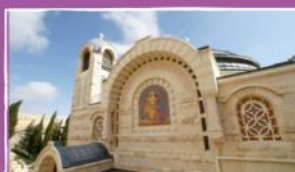
February 28 - Second Stop
PASSOVER

March 6 - Third Stop
MOUNT OF OLIVES

March 13 - Fourth Stop
THE PALACE OF THE HIGH PRIEST

March 20 - Fifth Stop
THE FORTRESS ANTONIA

March 27 - Sixth Stop
SKULL HILL



HOLY WEEK AT FIRST ST. PAUL'S



March 27th
Wednesday
Lenten Service
7:00 p.m.
Final Stop
Skull Hill

March 28th
Maundy Thursday
12:10 p.m. &
5th Grade
First Communion
7:00 p.m.

March 29th
Good Friday
Tenebrae
Candle Service
7:00 p.m.

March 30th
Easter
Service with
Communion
6:00 p.m.

March 31st
Easter Services
with Communion
6:30 & 10:00
Traditional
9:00 & 11:00
Contemporary



FEBRUARY 2024



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
HAPPY Valentine's				1 9:30 GriefShare 1:00 Quilting 3:00 College View 4:00 Kensington 6:30 Quilters Guild	2	3 6:00 Worship
4 Council Members Received 8:25 Worship 9:30 Education Hour 10:35 Worship 11:45 Congregational Council Short Meeting	5 6:30 Bell Choir 7:30 Property	6 6:30 Men's Bible Study 1:00 Quilting 4:30 Outreach 5:30 Christian Ed 6:30 Worship & Music 7:00 N.A.M.I.	7 5:00 Ichthus 5:00 Executive 7:00 Praise Band 8:00 Moms in Prayer	8 9:30 GriefShare 1:00 No LCW Lesson Leaders 2:00 Knit, Pray, Crochet 4:00 Homestead	COUNCIL RETREAT	
11 Soupbowl Offering 8:25 Worship 9:30 Education Hour 10:35 Worship 5:00 Super Bowl Party	12 9:00 LCW Board 12:00 Finance 1:30 Pitch 6:30 Bell Choir	13 6:30 Men's Bible Study 1:00 Quilting	14 Ash Wednesday 9:00 LCW Project Day 12:10 Worship 5:00 Ichthus 7:00 Worship 8:00 Praise Band 8:00 Moms in Prayer	15 9:30 GriefShare 1:00 Quilting	16	17 6:00 Worship
18 8:25 Worship 9:30 Education Hour 10:35 Worship	19 6:30 Bell Choir	20 6:30 Men's Bible Study 1:00 Quilting 1:30 LCW Group 3 5:00 Stephen Ministry	21 9:30 LCW Group 1 1:30 LCW Group 2 5:00 Ichthus 7:00 Worship 8:00 Praise Band 8:00 Moms in Prayer	22 9:30 GriefShare 1:00 Quilting 2:00 Knit, Pray, Crochet	23 1:00 Bridge 5:30 IF Gathering	24 9:00 IF Gathering 6:00 Worship
25 8:25 Worship 9:30 Education Hour 10:35 Worship 6:00 OREO's	26 1:30 Pitch 6:30 Bell Choir	27 6:30 Men's Bible Study 1:00 Quilting 7:30 Compassionate Friends	28 5:00 Ichthus 7:00 Worship 8:00 Praise Band 8:00 Moms in Prayer	29 9:30 GriefShare 1:00 Quilting		

MARCH 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2 6:00 Worship
3 8:25 Worship 9:30 Education Hour 10:35 Worship 12:00 New Members Class	4 6:30 Bell Choir	5 6:30 Men's Bible Study 1:00 Quilting 4:30 Outreach 5:30 Christian Ed 6:30 Worship & Music 7:00 N.A.M.I.	6 5:00 Exec. Meeting 5:00 Ichthus 7:00 Worship 8:00 Praise Band 8:00 Moms in Prayer	7 9:30 GriefShare 1:00 Quilting 3:00 College View 4:00 Kensington 6:30 Quilters Guild	8	9 6:00 Worship
10 Daylight Savings Time Begins 8:25 Worship 9:30 Education Hour 10:35 Worship 12:00 New Members Class	11 9:30 LCW Exec. Board 12:00 Finance 1:30 Pitch 6:30 Bell Choir	12 6:30 Men's Bible Study 1:00 Quilting 7:30 Council	13 9:00 LCW Project Day 1:00 Quilting 5:00 Ichthus 7:00 Worship 8:00 Praise Band 8:00 Moms in Prayer	14 9:30 GriefShare 1:00 Quilting 1:00 LCW Lesson Leaders 2:00 Knit, Pray, Crochet 4:00 Homestead	15	16 10:00 5th Grade First Communion Retreat 5:00 Seder Meal 6:00 Worship
17 8:25 Worship 9:30 Education Hour 10:35 Worship 12:00 New Members Class	18 6:30 Bell Choir	19 6:30 Men's Bible Study 1:00 Quilting 1:30 LCW Group 3 5:00 Steven Ministry	20 9:30 LCW Group 1 1:30 LCW Group 2 5:00 Ichthus 7:00 Worship 8:00 Praise Band 8:00 Moms in Prayer	21 9:30 GriefShare 1:00 Quilting	22 1:00 Bridge	23 5th Grade First Communion Retreat make-up Date (Contact Pastor) 6:00 Worship
24 Palm Sunday New Members Received 8:25 Worship 9:30 Education Hour 10:35 Worship 11:30 Annual Meeting 6:30 OREOS	25 1:30 Pitch 6:30 Bell Choir	26 6:30 Men's Bible Study 1:00 Quilting 7:30 Compassionate Friends	27 5:00 Ichthus Begins 7:00 Worship 8:00 Praise Band 8:00 Moms in Prayer	28 Maundy Thursday 9:30 GriefShare 12:10 Worship 1:00 Quilting 2:00 Knit, Pray, Crochet 7:00 Worship with 5th Grade First Communion	29 Good Friday 7:00 Worship	30 10:00 Easter Eggstravaganza 6:00 Worship
31 Easter Sunday 6:30 Sunrise Worship 7:30 Easter Breakfast 9:00 Cont. Worship 10:00 Trad. Worship 11:00 Cont. Worship						

MISSION



ACTION TEAMS WANTED

- ★ IF: GATHERING
- ★ EASTER BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER
- ★ BANNERS & HOLDERS
- ★ ACOLYTE ROBES
- ★ EASTER EGG HUNT
- ★ VBS
- ★ FEED MY SHEEP
- ★ NEW MEMBER CLASSES

Are you a Thrivent Member and willing to help support these great causes? Contact Megan for more information!

Questions?
Contact: Lesa Kautz (402) 469-6800
Outreach Coordinator
Megan Lockling (402) 463-1671
Director of Finance

Tartu Academy of Theology and Home of Hope

The mission of Tartu Academy of Theology (TAT) is to proclaim the Word of God in Estonia, the country which suffered for 50 years under Soviet occupation and is considered to be one of the most secular countries in the world. Before WWII, 98% of Estonians were Christians; today only around 12% are members of different Christian churches. To reconnect the Estonian people with their Christian identity not just today, but for generations to come, Christian college TAT was established in 1992 and the Home of Hope, a Christian outreach center, was founded in 2019. President of TAT, Pastor Siimon Haamer visited First St. Paul's Lutheran Church last October. We are excited to continue our support through this year's Judas Purse. You can learn more on their website: tatest.org.

Ministries of TAT and Home of Hope

- ▲ Bachelor and Master Program run with Estonian Lutheran Church Seminary
- ▲ Pastors, Chaplains, Pastoral Care Givers, Church Musicians, Etc.
- ▲ Bible School
- ▲ Christian Youth Work
- ▲ Christian Radio
- ▲ Pastoral Care Center



TAT and Home of Hope are LCMC Mission Partners.

2024 Judas Purse Recipient

LENTEN FOOD DRIVE

Starting Wednesday February 14th, please bring your non-perishable items to the Friendship Gathering Area and place them in the shopping carts. Donations will go to the Hastings Food Pantry.

Habitat for Humanity

We collected \$640 during our Christmas Eve Services. Thank you!

In his grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well.
- Romans 12:6

You were created with unique gifts and talents and we would love for you to share those with us. If you have not already done so, use the Time and Talent sheet included in this mailing to let us know how you would like to serve! Drop them off at the Church Office! Thank You!

STEPHEN MINISTRY

Prayer Room Now Available!

The prayer corner is now a prayer room! Come visit the new prayer room located in the Ruth Room. It is available between services and during the week for private prayer.

You can be a "Lookout" for our Stephen Ministry Program!

Stephen Ministers can provide one-on-one support for those who need this weekly care. Contact Pastor Joel Remmers or Ann Auten, SM Coordinator if you have a referral!

If you are 70.5 years of age or older, you can donate to qualifying charities directly from a taxable IRA. Not only does this create tax savings, there are other benefits for you too! For more information, contact your IRA administrator or Megan Lockling, Finance Coordinator.

Scenario A: Taxable

If you accept an IRA distribution and then give the money away, it increases your total taxable liability.

IRA → You → Charity

Scenario B: Non-Taxable

Instruct your IRA administrator to make a distribution directly to a charity and you do not add to your taxable income.

IRA → Charity

THRIVENT MEMBERS: MAKE A DIFFERENCE BY DIRECTING YOUR THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS!

Deadline is March 31st!

Thrivent Choice can have a tremendous impact on organizations like ours. Please consider directing your Choice Dollars to the church or 'God Made Me' Preschool. You can make a profound impact! The deadline to designate your 2023 Choice Dollars is March 31st. Contact your Thrivent Representative today for more information!

THANK YOU. THANK YOU. THANK YOU!

ADULT Discipleship

Questions?
Contact: Alexa Hintz (402) 768-1622
Director of Christian Education
or Pastor Chad Power
(402) 705-4026



Come to FSP's Super Bowl Party!

February 11th - 5:00 p.m. C.C.

Bring a side dish to share! Fun family times!

Watch for more details in the bulletin and on Facebook!

IF: GATHERING 2024

FEBRUARY 23-24, 2024

REGISTER TODAY SCAN HERE

The 10-Year Celebration

WOMEN'S RETREAT

Friday, Feb 23rd: 5:30 p.m.-10:00 p.m.
Saturday, Feb 24th: 9:00 a.m. -4:30 p.m.

All women are invited to gather to hear powerful speakers, some of the best worship music, and definitely the greatest message wrapped up in a weekend!

Sign up here for IF:2024!
OR
@ <https://www.firststpauls.org>

New Member Classes

March 3rd, 10th & 17th
Sunday, 11:45 a.m.

Lunch Provided in Founders Hall

All who are transferring membership to FSP are encouraged to attend!

If you would like to join or know someone that does, please contact the Church Office (402) 463-1329!

New Member Reception:
March 24th between services.

Sundays during Education Hour - 9:30 a.m.

Adult Ministries

Holy Grounds
Parent Forum - Mary Room with Pastor Chad

Nursery Provided - Ed Wing Nursery

Adult Forum
Bible Topics - Heritage Room with Pastor Joel

Adult Ministries and Studies

Tuesdays at 6:30 a.m.	The Engagement Project - Men's Bible Study - Heritage Room
Wednesdays at 6:15 p.m.	Grit Don't Quit - Women's Bible Study - Upper Level Ed.
Thursdays at 7:00 p.m.	Paul The Apostle - Adult Bible Study - Mary Room
	The Gospel of Mark - Men's Bibles & Brews

Menu for February

Feb. 7- Baked Potato Bar w/ Chili & Cheese, Broccoli w/ Cheese and a Dessert

Feb. 14 - Chicken Alfredo, Green Beans, Garlic Bread, Valentine Dessert

Feb. 21 - Taco/Nacho Bar, Refried Beans, Chips & Cheese, Root Beer Floats

Feb. 28 - Potato Soup & Sloppy Joes & Dessert

Salad Bar, Veggies and PB&J at every meal.
Menu subject to change due to availability.

Menu for March

Mar. 6- Spaghetti with Red or White Meat Sauce, Garlic Bread & Dessert

Mar. 13 - Irish Stew & Garlic Bread, St. Patrick's Day Dessert

Mar. 20 - Baked Chicken & Au Gratin Potatoes, Glazed Carrots & Dessert

Mar. 27- Ham Balls & Cheesy Potatoes, Green Beans & Cole Slaw & Easter Dessert

Salad Bar, Veggies and PB&J at every meal.
Menu subject to change due to availability.

KIDS

Discipleship

Questions?
Contact: Alexa Hintz (402) 768-1622
Director of Christian Education



Come GROW! with Us! PreK - 5th Grades
Wednesday Night Ichthus 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.
Sunday School 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.



February
A series on
Jesus' Miracles



March
A series on Easter



First Communion
Thursday, March 28th
7:00 p.m.

Easter-ific Egg Celebration Family Event

Join us on Saturday March 30th at
10:00 a.m. for a fun morning
of egg hunting and candy!
Ages 0-5th Grade are Invited!!!
Meet in the Celebration Center.



God Made Me Preschool

We are collecting Russ's & Allen's Receipts
dated from September 1st-March 31st, 2024
as well as Best Choice UPC's. Please bring
them to the Church Office or place them in
the box in the Friendship Gathering Area.
Thanks to all who support us!!!



Children's Choir Schedule Cherubs & Joyful Noises

February 28th - Wednesday
Lenten Service
March 24th - Palm Sunday
April 21st
May 12th - Mother's Day
Sundays - 10:35 a.m. - Contemporary Service
Wednesday - 7:00 p.m. - Lenten Service



First Communion Retreat 5th Grade

Saturday, March 16th at 10:00 a.m.
in the Christian Underground.
Please bring a lunch.
The Seder Meal will follow, starting at 5:00 p.m.
Families are invited to join.

YOUTH

Discipleship

Questions?
Contact: Alexa Hintz (402) 768-1622
Director of Christian Education

Junior High Ministry

6th Grade Pre-Confirmation
Wednesdays - Meets in the LOT!
February 7th: 6:00-7:30 p.m.
Starting February 14th: 6:00-6:45 p.m.
Sundays - Devos and Donuts!!
9:30-10:30 a.m.

7th Grade Confirmation
Meet in Basement at Y&FMC
8th Grade Confirmation
Meet in Upstairs at Y&FMC
Wednesdays
February 7th: 6:15-7:45 p.m.
Starting February 14th: 6:00-7:00 p.m.

2024 Jr. High Mission Trip Info!

3rd Payment Due:
Wed. February 21st

Next Meeting: Sunday,
February 11th after the
10:30 a.m. service

Where: Celebration Center

*This mission trip is for current
7th & 8th graders.

OREO's- The Good Stuff in the Middle

For ALL 7th & 8th Graders
We meet on the 4th Sunday of the
month at 6:30 p.m. in the
Friendship Gathering Area

February 25th &
March 24th

Follow Youth Ministry on Social Media: Instagram/Twitter/Facebook:
@FSPStuMin SnapChat:@FSPMinistry

2024 Sr. High Mission Trip Info!

4th Payment Due:
Wednesday,
February 21st

Next Meeting: Sunday,
February 18th after the
10:30 a.m. service

Where: Celebration Center

Sr. High Mission Team Easter Breakfast

ALL BENEFITS GO TO SUPPORT THE
JR. AND SR. HIGH MISSION TEAM

03.31.24

7:30AM-11:30 AM | SUNDAY
FOUNDERS HALL
FREE WILL DONATION

FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

Calling all High School
Seniors!!! Foundation
Scholarships are available for
pick up in the Church Office.
They are to be postmarked by
FEBRUARY 16th!!

Senior High Ministry (Grades 9 — 12)

Soul Café is for Grades 9-12 and their friends. Meet in the Christian Underground.
7:00 - 8:00 p.m. Jesus Hour 8:00 - 9:00 p.m. Soul Café

Our February series
"Finding Truth"

In March we will start
"Unfiltered Jesus"



Happy Easter!

