

◆ Pastor Stephen Zeller.....

## PASTOR'S PAGE

### The Cross: What's Next

During our midweek Lenten services, we gathered in the Fellowship Hall at the foot of the cross. We heard the "Seven Last Words" that Jesus spoke from the cross as he hung there dying. We talked about how, in one way, those words could be heard as Jesus' parting words as he departed this world. Some final farewells, reminders, and hope as he knew his end was approaching.

But we also moved beyond that and talked about how excruciating that event of crucifixion would have been for Jesus. (I personally learned that the word 'excruciating' literally has roots from the word 'crucifixion') As strong of a person as Jesus was, his physical body was suffering, and these last words were truly raw emotion and deep-rooted feelings coming out in those moments.

Forgiveness. Hope. Promise. Care. Devotion.

This is truly who Jesus was, on full display for the world to see.

So, what does the cross mean after Jesus' resurrection? Is it still a symbol of suffering and death? Well, yes. Is it still a reminder that Jesus knows the deepest needs of us as humans? Yes. But it's also a sign that God accomplishes the promises that God makes. It's a sign that even in the suffering and death of this world, God's grace and mercy are still a part of the story. It's a sign that, no matter what evil the world tries to accomplish, God still wins and brings about new life.

As we enter this Easter season, I invite all of us to continue to ponder the promises of the cross for us today. It is truly a gift of God.

Happy Easter!

~Pastor Stephen



# IN THE CHURCH

## thrivent<sup>+</sup>

For information on Choice Dollars visit [Thrivent.com/choicedollars](http://Thrivent.com/choicedollars) or call 1-800-847-4836 and say, "Thrivent Choice".

### ELEVETTE UPDATE

At the annual meeting we heard an update about the elevette in the Sanctuary. It has aged beyond its useful life and needs to be replaced if we want to continue to use it.



We've received a significant pledge towards replacement cost (which also includes some construction work so that a new unit can fit) but would like to see if anyone else would be willing and able to pledge towards this project. Please speak with Pastor Stephen or Jake Jackson if you are interested. Thank you!

### APRIL WORSHIP UPDATES

On Sunday, **April 12<sup>th</sup>**, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter, we will have a guest preacher in worship. Rev. Kristen Koch is the DEM (Director for Evangelical Mission) with the Central States Synod. She will join us on the 12<sup>th</sup> to preach and preside while Pastor Stephen is out of town. There will be NO casual worship that weekend, April 11<sup>th</sup>.



On the weekend of Sunday, **April 19<sup>th</sup>**, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter, we will celebrate Holy Humor, our annual tradition of recognizing the Easter joy in our midst. There WILL be casual worship that weekend, on Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup>.

### "ONE STITCH AT A TIME"



The Sewing Group will meet again beginning **April 6<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am.**

All are welcome to join!

### COUNCIL MEETING

The Church Council will meet on **April 15 at 6:00 pm** in the Meeting Room.



# COMING EVENTS

## SKATING PARTY

Members and friends are invited to an afternoon of fun at the Wheel Thing Skate Center in Sedalia! Join us on **Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup>**, from 2:00-4:00 pm. We have the whole rink reserved for ourselves that afternoon. A suggested donation of \$5-10 per skater would help offset the cost. The snack bar will not be open but we can bring our own snacks to share. Please RSVP at church so we know how many to expect! Lace up those skates and we'll see you there!



## ESTHER CIRCLE

The Esther Circle will meet on Monday, **April 20<sup>th</sup>** at Rhonda Schlesselman's Home at **7:00 p.m.**



## SATURDAY CASUAL SERVICE

Saturday worship begins at **5:30pm** in the Chapel. There will be no service on the 2nd Saturday of this month. Welcome!



## WORSHIP AND MUSIC



The Worship and Music Committee will meet on **April 22<sup>nd</sup> @ 3:30 pm** in the Meeting Room.

## RETIREMENT CELEBRATION

**SAVE THE DATE:** Join us after worship on **Sunday, April 26**, for a luncheon to celebrate the music ministry of Lois Viebrock. Lois has retired from playing the organ after 65 years and we want to honor her. This will be a catered luncheon with a short program to give thanks for her service to the church. Please RSVP to the church office by **April 12** if you can attend!



## SUNBEAM



The Sunbeam Committee will meet on Wednesday, **April 29<sup>th</sup>** at 3:00pm.



# COMING EVENTS

## EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP



The Central States Women of the ELCA are offering the Lynn Starr Education Scholarship to the women of any ELCA congregation who are seeking a post-high school education. The scholarship is a one-year non-renewable scholarship (not exceeding \$1,000). Applications must be postmarked by **April 30, 2026**. The applications (containing additional information) can be found at each usher's stand. The following St. Paul's women have been awarded a scholarship over the past three years: Lauren Bailey, Alyssa Fowler, and Jenna Nash. For questions, please see Janice.

## HEALTH CARE

The Benton County Health Department will be here every Thursday from 8:00am until 10:00am to assist you with your health care needs.



## YOGA CLASS

The yoga classes have come to an end. We are grateful to local doctor, Stephanie Schirding, who led this yoga instruction for so long. Due to her husband's upcoming deployment she will be unable to lead these Monday classes. If anyone knows of another yoga instructor who might be interested in leading a class, please let Pastor Stephen know.



## HONORING OUR GRADUATES

As the end of the year approaches, we want to be sure we are remembering and honoring everyone who will be graduating. We will honor our high school seniors in worship on Sunday, **May 3<sup>rd</sup>**. If you or someone in your family is having a graduation this year, please be sure to let the church office know.





# IN THE COMMUNITY

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

The Cole Camp Food Pantry is in need of 2-3 volunteers who would be able to fill in when regular volunteers cannot be there. The Pantry is open Wednesdays from 10am-12noon, Thursdays from 3pm-5pm, and Saturdays from 10am-12noon. Volunteers must be 18+ years old, out of high school, and not a client of the Food Pantry. If you have questions or interest, please contact Sheila Sabala, Food Pantry Manager, at (816) 559-1111. Thank you!





## BIBLE CAMP

**Camp Tomah Shinga** is our Lutheran camp here in mid-Missouri. Located in Junction City, Kansas, this camp has served the Central States Synod for more than a half century. Less than a four hour drive away, this camp offers many opportunities throughout the summer for youth campers of all ages. Check out what they have to offer at <https://camptomahshinga.com>.

**Mid-MO Bible Camp** will take place **June 12-16** at Camp Rising Sun in the Lake of the Ozarks State Park. This is for youth who have completed 4<sup>th</sup> through 9<sup>th</sup> grade. Registration information will be shared closer to the summer. Adult volunteers are always needed, whether for specific tasks or a few hours or a few days: kitchen help, swimming supervision (especially trained life guards), final-day cleanup, providing cookies & snacks, etc.

Summer  
CAMP



# HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Palm Saturday .....	March 28 at 5:30 pm	Procession of Palms
Palm Sunday .....	March 29 at 10:00 am	Procession of Palms
Maundy Thursday .....	April 2 at 7:00 pm	Stripping of the Altar
Good Friday .....	April 3 at 7:00 pm	Service of Darkness
Easter Saturday .....	April 4 at 5:30 pm	Easter Vigil
Easter Sunrise .....	April 5 at 7:00 am	Breakfast to follow
Easter Sunday .....	April 5 at 10:00 am	Holy Communion

In addition to our regular Holy week worship schedule, we hope that the following activities will add to your Lenten journey:

Holy Week Virtual Devotions: Join Pastor Stephen at **noon each day** (Monday - Saturday) during Holy Week on Facebook Live for a short reflection.

Holy Week Children's Event: Join Pastor Kim on **Wednesday, April 1**, at **6:30 pm** for a special Holy Week activity. This will be geared toward children and their families. A light supper will be served starting at 6:30, so an RSVP would be appreciated.

## HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE



◆ Send a note.....

# NEEDS YOUR PRAYERS

Kris Barnes  
(friend of Julie Cronin)

Gene Beckman

Jon Beckman

Deanna Browning

Joe Campbell

Scott Cash

Cliff Eckhoff

Debra Eichler

Vickie Fox

Joseph Fuelling  
(nephew of Paul Fuelling)

Junior Garr

Jerome Goosen

John Grother

Adam Gumbel  
(son of Jim & Kim Gumbel)

Karen Haase  
(sister-in-law of Gene Beckman)

Larry Haase  
(brother-in-law of Gene Beckman)

Mary Haluptzok

Kathy Harms

Heidi Hopp  
(grandmother of Nicole Rice)

Gordon Ives

Greg Ives

Norene Ives

Joyce Jones  
(sister of Connie Gerken)

Hazel Karstons

Fred John Kreisel & Family  
(cousin of Ruth Ann Kreisel)

Marvin Logan  
(brother of Gale Logan)

Kyle Luetjen

David Mobely  
(brother-in-law of Randy Healan)

Dennis & Claudia Moellman

Jackie Ross  
(sister of Randy Healan)

Kylie Simon

Kevin Tatum

Nathan Vanderlinden

Judie VonHolten

Mike Wingerter  
(brother of Susan Goosen)



***\*Nursing Home\****

Vern Dean Bohling (*Anew #4*)

Shirley Cash (*Anew #18*)

Larry & Judy Schlesselman (*Anew #19*)

Eugene Beckman (*GSCC*)

Arlene Schlesselman (*GSCC #213*)

Florence VonHolten (*GSCC#207*)

Earl Bauer (*Windsor Nursing Home #47*)





# MILITARY

## MILITARY

Rank E3 Jensen Hamilton

(son of Matt & Isabel Hamilton and  
grandson of Judie VonHolten)

Whiteman Airforce Base

Private Braydn Hood

(grandson of Connie Gerken)

National Guard

MSgt. Jason Ostberg

(son-in-law of Suzanne Lutjen)

15319 Proteus Street

San Antonio, TX 78245

J. Phillips,

Navy Petty Officer E-4 MMN

(nephew of Katy Schlesselman)

Lt. Col. Ron Poe

1780 Cedar Lane

Sedalia, MO 65301

SSG Nick Smith

Whiteman Airforce Base

Major Joseph Strathman

1084 Strada Cristallo

Henderson, NV 89011



◆ A Time To Celebrate.....

# SPECIAL OCCASIONS



04/03	Josie Loughery
04/04	Jordan Kyle
04/04	Kyler Tinney
04/04	Macoy Tinney
04/06	Steve Hamilton
04/06	Todd Rusk
04/06	Rhonda Schlesselman
04/07	James Cash
04/10	Eric Kullman
04/11	Grady Rice
04/12	Amanda Gates
04/13	Avery Burns
04/14	Larry Schlesselman
04/15	Don Harms
04/15	Wyatt Keith
04/16	Katie Cook
04/21	Lucas Eckhoff
04/22	Tammy Johnson
04/25	Joann Kreisel
04/26	Francis Rehmer
04/27	Sandy Schlesselman
04/30	Weston Balke
04/30	Joshua Brandes
04/30	Tyler Marquess



04/01	Kendall Cook
04/01	Jocelyn Heimsoth
04/01	Sharon Holland
04/01	Diann Holsten
04/01	Ron Poe
04/03	Rebecca Balke
04/03	Mason Harms
04/03	Cecil Schlesselmann
04/04	Clyde Alcorn
04/04	Wyatt Keith
04/04	Sarah Keith
04/04	Laura Morrison
04/04	Neil Strathman
04/05	Michelle Loughery
04/06	Jacob Brockfeld
04/06	Matt Smith
04/07	Colt Bredehoeft
04/07	Chase Bredehoeft
04/07	Cash Bredehoeft
04/07	Linda Viebrock
04/09	Jason Harms
04/10	Lauren Bailey
04/10	Kim Oelrichs
04/11	Shelby Nash
04/11	Jenna Nash
04/11	Jason Nash
04/12	Taylor Prince
04/13	Jentry Kyle
04/14	Miles Bailey
04/14	Barry Weinberg
04/14	Rylee Fairchild
04/17	Jeffery Cronin
04/17	Evan Randall
04/18	Mark Oelrichs





# SPECIAL OCCASIONS

04/19 John Grother  
 04/21 Ron Newman  
 04/22 Ainsley Kullman  
 04/23 Jemma Schlesselman  
 04/26 Amy Yust  
 04/26 Charlotte Zeller  
 04/28 Daniel Akin  
 04/28 Don Harms  
 04/29 Suzanne Lutjen  
 04/30 Judy Smith

04/01



Jason & Tiffinay Nash (20)  
 04/06 Carter & Jordan Wienberg (2)  
 04/10 Rodger & Theila Luetjen (55)  
 04/15 Allan & Mona Ipsen (54)  
 04/15 Anthony & Angelia Kreisel (15)  
 04/18 Larry & Judy Schlesselman (62)  
 04/24 John & Beth Grother (21)  
 04/27 Michael & Lesa Warden (42)  
 04/28 Bryan & Sarah Harms (25)  
 04/30 Clark & Christine Oelrichs (10)



## Pastor Stephen Zeller

St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
 205 West Jefferson Street  
 P.O. Box 250  
 Cole Camp, MO 65325

660 - 668 - 3537  
 (church office)

660 - 668 - 0881  
 (Pr. Stephen's home)

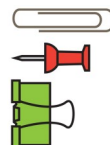
301 - 787 - 7993  
 (Pr. Stephen's cell)

### Office Hours:

Tuesday 8:30am - 3:00pm  
 Wednesday 8:30am - 3:00pm  
 Thursday 8:30am - 12:00pm  
 Friday 8:30am - 12:00pm

StephenPZeller@gmail.com  
 Email: office@stpauls.me  
 Website: www.stpauls.me

OFFICE HOURS AND  
COMMUNICATION





# DETAILED TREASURER'S REPORT

## Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual

	Actual Thru February 28	Annual Budget	Over (Under) Budget	% of Budget	Target %
<b>Benevolence Receipts</b>					<b>Note A</b>
ELCA	410.00	7,400.00	-6,990.00	5.54%	
World Hunger	-	2,000.00	-2,000.00	0.0%	
Hope 5 One	-	2,500.00	-2,500.00	0.0%	
Little Blessings	-	2,500.00	-2,500.00	0.0%	
CC Food Pantry Donations	376.46	1,500.00	-1,123.54	25.1%	
Seniors of North Benton County	-	-	-	0.0%	
Other	-	-	-	0.0%	
<b>Total Benevolence Receipts</b>	<b>786.46</b>	<b>15,900.00</b>	<b>-15,113.54</b>	<b>4.95%</b>	
<b>Offering</b>					
HP Offering	30,048.06	234,843.00	-204,794.94	12.8%	16.7%
Building Fund 5%	1,581.49	12,360.00	-10,778.51	12.8%	16.7%
<b>Total Offering</b>	<b>31,629.55</b>	<b>247,203.00</b>	<b>-215,573.45</b>	<b>12.8%</b>	
Building Use	1,000.00	2,750.00	-1,750.00	36.36%	
Fair Stand, net		5,000.00	-5,000.00	0.0%	
Float		800.00	-800.00	0.0%	
Interest	743.98	0.00	743.98	100.0%	
Miscellaneous		0.00	0.00	0.0%	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>34,159.99</b>	<b>271,653.00</b>	<b>-237,493.01</b>	<b>12.58%</b>	
<b>Expenses</b>	<b>33,177.20</b>	<b>271,653.00</b>	<b>-238,475.80</b>	<b>12.21%</b>	
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>982.79</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>982.79</b>		

## Cash and Investment Balance - February 28, 2026

Home Purpose Note B	Building	Memorial Note C	Crisis	Little Blessings Note D	Seminary
79,340.63	59,605.80	20,184.62	3,359.04	85,164.95	8,888.22



More financial information on page 13.



# TREASURER, CONTINUED

Note A: As of February 28, 2026, 16.7% of the year has elapsed, however, offerings as a percent of budget are only 12.8%.

This indicates that offerings are approximately \$9,650 short of budgeted amounts.

Note B: Includes \$2,468.96 of Communities of Calling Funds.

Note C: Includes restricted amounts of \$15,000 for Little Blessings and \$1,512.75 for Sunday School.

Note D: Includes \$82,834.89 in grant funds.

## CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

- Jake Jackson,**.....*President*
- Justin Tinney,** ..... *Vice-President /Evangelism*
- Erin Oelrichs,** ..... *Treasurer/Stewardship*
- Susan Goosen,** ..... *Secretary*
- Melinda Strathman,** ..... *Worship & Music*
- Lynn Schear,** ..... *Parish Education*
- Roy Wagner,**..... *Property*
- Greg Bredehoeft,** ..... *Property*
- Kelly Viebrock,**..... *Property*
- Stephen Zeller,** ..... *Pastor*



◆ Susan Goosen, Church Council Secretary

## COUNCIL MINUTES

### **Congregational Council Meeting Wednesday February 11, 2026**

The Congregational Council of St. Paul's Lutheran Church met on Wednesday February 11, 2026. Those present were Chairman Jake Jackson, Pastor Stephen Zeller, Justin Tinney, Melinda Strathman, Lynn Schear, Erin Oelrichs, Greg Bredehoeft, Susan Goosen and Kelly Viebrock via Zoom.

**Call to Order:** Chairman Jake Jackson called the meeting to order at 6:35.

**Devotions:** Discussion on Articles XIII and XIV from the Augsburg Confession and a prayer led by Pastor Stephen.

**Minutes:** Minutes of the January 7<sup>th</sup> meeting were reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Justin and seconded by Melinda. Motion passed, minutes filed.

**Financial Report:** Norma Schlesselman gave the financial report. A motion to approve the report was made by Greg and seconded by Justin. Motion passed, report filed.

### **Pastor's report:**

Upcoming events: Luther League Pancake Dinner: Feb. 15

Ash Wednesday: February 18

Vacation Dates: April 6-12 (Rev. Kristen Koch, DEM, presided on April 12)

**Constitution:** The new constitution and bylaws were approved at the Annual Meeting on Jan 18 and have been sent to the synod for official approval. A word of thanks to the committee members who worked on this endeavor: Janice Gerken, Jean Healan, Emily Kullman and Krista Poe.

### **Committee Reports**

**Congregational Ministry and Evangelism:** Committee will serve cookies at Lenten services 3/4. Council will serve 3/11.

**Worship:** Discussion on a reception/luncheon for Lois's retirement. Possible date set for April 26. Erin will provide the cake and punch, congregation to provide sides and salads.

*continued on page 15.....*



◆ continued from page 14.....

# COUNCIL CONTINUED

**Budget/ Stewardship:** No report.

**Parish Education:** No report.

**Property Management:**

**Siding/ addition on storage building:** Roy is still working on this project.

**Elevette removal / new one:** Council would welcome anyone else who would like to participate in the cost of this project. Cost will be \$45,000 for the new elevette and \$18,500 for the construction of moving the wall.

**Propane:** Tanks are in place and ready to be leveled and painted.

**Railing for steps:** A railing for the steps up to the altar was discussed. Some thoughts were a possible removable one in the center or one over by the piano.

**Cemetery damage:** New stones are now at the entrance. Council discussed some possibilities in utilizing the old ones.

**Sanctuary wall repairs:** Imhoff construction gave a bid of \$13,500 for the Pulpit side wall and \$1500 for the arch wall by the altar. Repairs will take 7 to 10 days. Melinda made a motion to move forward with the repairs as long as it does not exceed the 10% of the yearly budget. Motion seconded by Justin. Motion carried.

**Motion to Adjourn:** A motion to adjourn was made by Justin and seconded by Lynn. All approved, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:08 with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Goosen  
Church Council Secretary

Worship Attendance (in person):

Jan. 10: 17	Jan 11: 123
Jan. 17: xx	Jan. 18: 124
Jan. 24: xx	Jan. 25: xx
(cancelled due to snow)	(cancelled due to snow)
Jan 31: 17	Feb 1: 99
Feb. 7: 10	Feb. 8: 114



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# St. Paul's Sunbeam



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
205 West Jefferson Street  
P.O. Box 250  
Cole Camp, Missouri 65325

**Phone:** 660-668-3537

**Website:** [www.stpauls.me](http://www.stpauls.me)

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St. Paul's Mission Statement  
"BEING TRANSFORMED BY GOD'S  
GRACE TO LOVE AND SERVE."

**Sunday, April 5, 2026**  
Resurrection of our Lord  
Easter Sunday  
Holy Communion at the Altar

**Sunday, April 12, 2026**  
Second Sunday of Easter  
Holy Communion by Stations

**Sunday, April 19, 2026**  
Third Sunday of Easter  
Holy Communion by Stations

**Sunday, April 26, 2026**  
Fourth Sunday of Easter  
Holy Communion by Stations

Come! Worship at St. Paul's

First, Third and Fourth  
Saturday Evening  
5:30 P.M. - Casual Worship  
++++++  
Every Sunday Morning  
10:00 A.M. - Worship

You can also find our worship services  
online, or call us to receive a DVD copy:

[www.facebook.com/StPaulsColeCamp](http://www.facebook.com/StPaulsColeCamp)  
[www.youtube.com/StPaulsColeCamp](http://www.youtube.com/StPaulsColeCamp)

