

# Inspiration

NEWS FROM ST. PAUL UNITED METHODIST

APRIL 2026

## *Pastoral Perspective*

WITH REV. FAITH KUBAI



*Dear St. Paul Church Family,*

Spring is here... and what a gift it is!

After the long winter season, with its cold, its stillness, and its heaviness, we pause to thank God for carrying us through. Through every storm, every uncertain day, every quiet moment, God has been faithful. And now, as the earth begins to bloom again, we are reminded that God is always at work, bringing new life, new strength, and new beginnings.

That is exactly how we step into this beautiful month of April! We do not come into April empty, we come having journeyed together through Lent. These past forty days have been sacred for us as a church family. We have prayed together, reflected deeply, and allowed God to search our hearts. And for me personally, walking with you through the daily devotionals has been such a blessing.

I have heard your testimonies. I have seen how God has been speaking to you, strengthening you, and meeting you right where you are. And my prayer is that these devotions have not just been something we read, but something that has shaped our faith journey, drawing us closer to God, grounding us in His Word, and renewing our spirits day by day.

And now... we welcome April with Resurrection Sunday! This is the center of our faith. The resurrection reminds us that God always has the final word. What looked like the end became a new beginning. What seemed lost was restored. And so we stand as resurrection people, people of hope, people of life, people who believe that God is still doing new things among us.

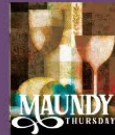
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## *Holy Week Worship*



### *Palm Sunday*

We remember the crowd's excitement with waving palms Sunday, March 29 at 10:00 AM in the Sanctuary. \*There will be NO Saturday service.



### *Maundy Thursday*

Service beginning at 7:00 PM in the Sanctuary, Thursday, April 2, We will be celebrating Holy Communion.



### *Good Friday*

The retelling of Christ's last hours will begin at 7:00 PM in the Sanctuary, Friday, April 3. Worship will center on the power of the cross with narrations from the Saint Paul Youth.



### *Easter Sunday*

This day we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. Sing hallelujahs and celebrate with great JOY! Worship and Holy Communion will begin at 10 AM in the Sanctuary, Sunday, April 5. \*There will be no Holy Saturday service.

## Christ is risen!

*Pastoral Perspective...Continued*

And because He lives, there is new life for you. There is fresh strength for you. There is hope for every situation you are facing.

May this month of April be filled with renewal in your spirit, peace in your heart, and joy in your home. May you experience the risen Christ in your daily life, in your work, your relationships, and even in the quiet moments.

And may the blessing of the risen Lord rest upon you, bringing life where there was weariness, peace where there was unrest, and joy that overflows.

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!

With love and gratitude,

*Rev. Faith Kubai*

## Sustaining God's Work Among Us

As we continue to walk together in this season of renewal and resurrection, I also want to speak to us from a place of honesty, love, and shared responsibility as a church family.

God has been faithful to us; there is no doubt about that. We have seen His hand sustaining us, guiding us, and opening doors even when the path has not always been easy. And yet, as your pastor, I want to gently share that we are still facing some financial challenges as a church.

At this time, each quarter, we have had to rely on support from the Foundation to help us meet our needs and continue the ministry of St. Paul. While we are deeply grateful for that support, we also recognize that God is calling us, as a church family, to continue growing in our stewardship and commitment.

So, I want to encourage us, as your pastor, to continue to pray for the church. Pray for wisdom, for provision, and for God's direction as we move forward. And if you are able, I invite you to consider increasing your giving or finding other ways you can support the life and mission of the church.

Because this is our church. This is our shared calling. And we are part of something that is bigger than all of us, God's work in this place, in this community, and in the lives of so many people.

I truly believe that as we each do our part, God will continue to provide, to sustain, and to lead us into a future filled with hope.

Thank you, St. Paul, for your faithfulness, your generosity, and your heart for God's work.

With love and hope,  
*Rev. Faith Kubai*

## Volunteers of the Month

*Marilou Dohe &  
Susie Robinson*

One of the most beautiful moments in our life together as a church is when we gather at the Lord's Table. Once every month, we come, bringing our whole selves, and we are reminded again of God's grace, God's love, and God's invitation to all.

And this month, we pause with so much joy to celebrate two wonderful servants among us who help make that sacred moment possible, **Marilou Dohe** and **Susie Robinson**.

Marilou, we celebrate you! Thank you for the love and care you pour into preparing communion for us. You don't just prepare the table; you prepare it with your hands and your heart. Even baking the bread, we use... what a beautiful and sacred offering that is. Week after week, you make sure everything is ready for both our Saturday and Sunday services, and you do it so faithfully and so quietly. Sometimes you even step in to help serve during the Saturday service. That kind of commitment and devotion is truly a gift to this church.

Susie, we celebrate you too! Thank you for faithfully preparing the communion on Sundays, setting the table, making sure everything is in place, and ensuring there is enough for everyone. You help create a space where all are welcomed, all are included, and all can come and receive. That is the heart of who we are as the body of Christ.

Together, you both remind us that ministry is not just what happens on the platform; it is also what happens in preparation, in service, and in the quiet acts of faithfulness that make worship possible.

We see you, we appreciate you, and we thank God for you both!

St. Paul family, this is what it means to be the church: to serve with love, to give with joy, and to use our gifts in ways that draw others closer to God. Join me in celebrating Marilou and Susie.

*Marilou and Susie, may the Lord bless you richly. May God continue to strengthen you, refresh you, and fill your hearts with joy as you serve Him so faithfully.*

With love and gratitude,  
*Rev. Faith Kubai*

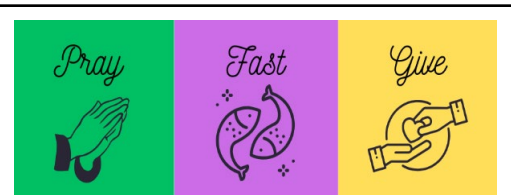
*thankyou*



Grace Hour  
Why Did Jesus Have to Die?  
Mondays @ 10:30 AM | Library  
St. Paul United Methodist Church



MASTERSINGERS OMAHA PRESENTS  
**ANTHEM**  
PULSE OF A NATION  
APRIL 12<sup>TH</sup>, 2026  
6:00 P.M.  
SAINT PAUL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - 5410 CORBY STREET OMAHA, NEBRASKA  
VISIT MASTERSINGERSOMAHA.COM FOR DETAILS & TICKETS



Pray Fast Give

To mark the 40 days of Lent, we invite you to pray, fast, and give. Using the envelopes provided in the Sanctuary and Chapel, act intentionally each day, contributing the cost of a meal as a sacrifice. Then **return your completed envelope to worship Easter Weekend**; all funds will be forwarded to UMCOR for disaster relief. Together, our sacrifices can make a meaningful difference in the lives of others!



Scholarship Opportunity!  
Any Saint Paul Benson members who graduated from high school in the years 2023-2026 and intend to continue their education is eligible for the Saint Paul United Methodist Scholarship!  
For more information, please see Rev. Faith Kubai



Holy Humor Sunday!  
SUNDAY APRIL 12 | 10 AM  
Celebrate Joy & Laughter in the Light of the Resurrection!



ACCEPTING MEMORIAL DONATIONS FOR  
*Easter Flowers*  
Honor a deceased loved one by donating for a lily to be used in our décor in their memory!  
St. Paul United Methodist Church

## PRAYERS for God's People

### Memorial Gifts

For **Judy Mayer**: Mark & Ariann Brown  
For **Joanna Lonnecker**: Dennis & Marta Wheeler.  
For **Gary Hahn**: Dennis & Marta Wheeler  
For **Steve Dohe**: Marilou Dohe  
For **Martha Husebo**: Jackie Christoph  
For **Bill & Donna Scheel**: Dee Davis  
For **Alyssa Crowe**: Connie Crawford  
For **Amy Churchill**: Connie Crawford  
For **Don Wilcox**: Marilou Dohe, Connie Crawford, Evelyn & Charles Schafer, Gregory Wilcox

### Recent Hospitalizations

Deb Stecker  
El Siebert

## A Poem From Pastor Marta

### Encountering the Risen Christ

Needing this silent space to escape  
the significant grief of the past

I step carefully through the swirling  
fog in this garden where flowering  
plants release their delicate fragrance.

Anticipating that fairly soon  
heaviness within shall be released.

Hearing the sound of my breathing and  
rustling grasses underneath our feet  
I'm not totally startled when the

gardener appears and tenderly  
touches my tense arm to connect with me.

Gently infused with a healthy dose  
of Divine Love, I feel awakened!  
Heart lifted, I smile and receive.

When encountering the Resurrected  
Christ my entire being fills with

unimaginable Love that is  
Christ's intense, light surging energy  
Being released to the vast cosmos.

With gratitude, my Redeemer and  
I gently join hands in a dance of joy

To the rhythm of Earth's steady heartbeat.  
Will you take Christ's hand and accept the  
invitation to do the Easter dance?

## Confirmation 2026



What a joy it has been to walk  
alongside our confirmation class this  
season.

Journeying with these four young  
people has truly been a gift, not just  
teaching them, but walking with them,  
listening to their thoughtful and  
curious questions, and watching their  
faith come alive in such a genuine  
way. They have been eager, engaged,  
and full of wonder, and that has made  
this journey so special.

Together, we explored the  
foundations of our faith, what it means  
to follow Christ, the meaning of  
baptism and Holy Communion, the  
grace of God, the life of prayer, the  
life of the church, and many more. We  
also learned about how the Methodist  
movement began and were reminded  
that we are a people of mission, called  
to live out our faith through love,  
service, and witness in the world.

And what a beautiful full-circle  
moment it was to see them not only  
learn about communion but also serve  
in it, helping with both the Saturday  
and Sunday services. What a powerful  
testimony of growth, belonging, and  
stepping into the life of the church.

Beyond the learning, sharing meals  
with them and their parents after  
service has been one of my greatest  
joys. Those moments of fellowship,  
laughter, and connection have  
reminded me again that we are truly a  
family walking this journey together.

The baptism of my daughter Jemimah  
was another sacred highlight in this  
journey; it was such a joy to have the  
whole family together, witnessing that  
beautiful moment of grace.

I also want to extend a heartfelt thank  
you to our Prayer Shawl Team. The  
beautiful shawls you prepared,  
covered in prayer and love, are such a  
meaningful gift, reminding our  
confirmands that they are surrounded,  
supported, and deeply loved by this  
church family.

St. Paul, thank you for nurturing the  
faith of our young people. This is holy,  
beautiful work.

With love and gratitude,  
*Rev. Faith Kubai*

The Mercy & Justice Team's annual  
**'Undie Sunday'**  
drive has begun!



Bring all sizes of elementary - youth  
sizes new unders, t-shirts, bras &  
socks to Mission Central by April 29.

## All-Church Yard Clean-Up Day

THURSDAY, APRIL 16 | 9AM

Bring your favorite hoe, rake, gloves, buckets, etc.!



Help the Mercy & Justice Team  
supply Living Hope Pantry!

\*Place your donations in the Mission  
Central area for delivery.

\*Of greatest need: toiletry items, kid approved  
items. Fresh produce also welcomed!



\*Formerly known as Pearl Pantry

## SAVE THE DATE

United Women of Faith

Spring Luncheon

SAT. MAY 16 | 11 AM

\$15 Step Into Style

FASHION SHOW  
with Tip Top Thrift Shop  
BACK THIS YEAR!



## ST. PAUL BENSON ALL-CHURCH OUTING

SUNDAY, MAY 31, 2026

GAME TIME: 5:05 PM

TICKETS: \$15 (CASH ONLY)

OMAHA STORM CHASERS VS. MEMPHIS REDBIRDS

LET'S CHEER FOR THE STORM CHASERS TOGETHER!

# SERVE JOYFULLY

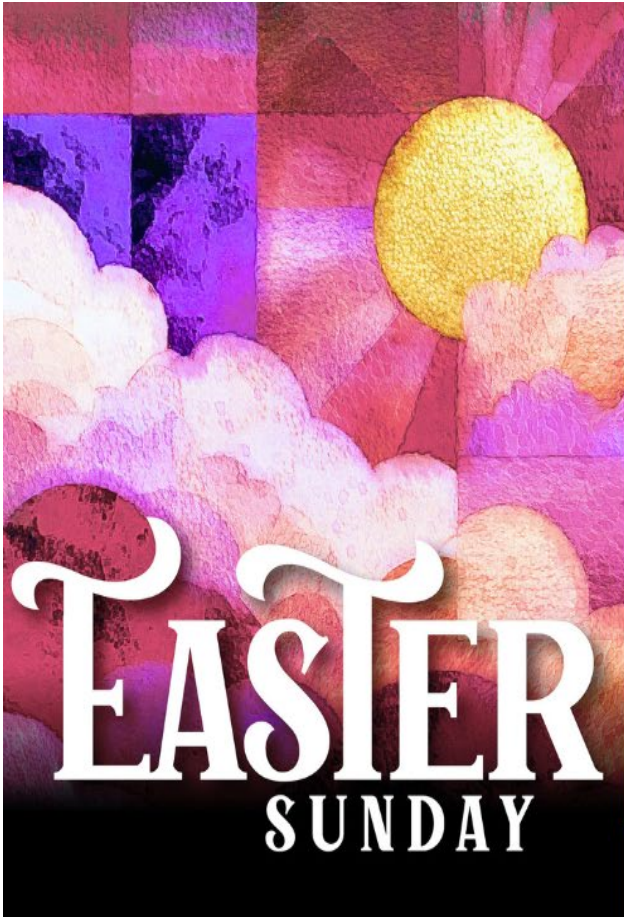
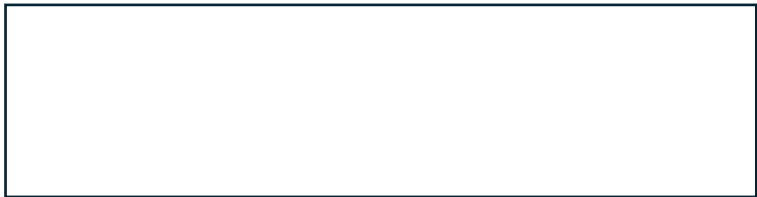
KEARNEY, NE  
MAY 27 - 30, 2026  
GREAT PLAINS ANNUAL CONFERENCE



5410 CORBY STREET  
OMAHA, NE 68104

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



**SUNDAY**  
**April 5 | 10 AM**  
**Sanctuary**



\*No Saturday Service\*

*Invite your Friends and Family to Join Us this Easter!*

# April 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				2 7:00pm Maundy Thursday Service	3 7:00pm GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE	4 NO SATURDAY WORSHIP SERVICE
5 CONFIRMATION SUNDAY 9:00am Soul Journeys for Women (LIB) 10:00am EASTER SUNDAY WORSHIP 11:00am Nepali Worship 11:15am Children's Sunday School (313) 11:15am Youth Group	6 BUILDING CLOSED - EASTER 6:00pm MasterSingers Rehearsal (RC)	7 9:00am The Q(uilters) 1:30pm Prayer Shawl Ministry (LIB) 5:45pm Bell Choir	8 8:30am Counseling (TJ)	9 6:00pm MasterSingers Rehearsal (RC)	10	11 9:00am Book Club (Offsite) 9:00am Spring Grounds Clean Up 5:00pm Worship Service
12 HOLY HUMOR SUNDAY 9:00am Soul Journeys for Women (LIB) 10:00am Worship Service In-Person and Livestream 11:00am Nepali Worship 11:15am Children's Sunday School (313) 11:15am Youth Group 6:00pm MasterSingers Concert "Anthem: Pulse of a Nation"	13 9:00am Lectio Divina 9:00am The Q(uilters) Group (105) 10:30am Grace Hour 2:30pm Tai Chi	14 1:30pm Prayer Shawl Ministry (LIB) 5:45pm Bell Choir	15 8:30am Counseling (TJ)	16 9:00am Spring Clean up BACKUP	17 2:30pm Holy Listening & Elmwood Tower	18 10:00am Women's Picnic / Pot luck Retreat 5:00pm Worship Service
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UWF Quarterly Meeting with Guest Speaker, Julie Masters



Jemimah Neema Ngaira Baptism



SAINT PAUL snapshots



 The Robinsons



Caleb Kubai lighting candles for service



Confirmation Class 2026



Thanks to Ann Parmenter, Jim Bruhn, Vickie Peyton and Peggy Haskins, the floors are pitch-perfect and shining brighter than a soprano's high C!

Belinda holds up the Seder plate, sharing memories of her childhood and the traditions that shaped her faith.

She spoke of the Seder meal as a celebration of freedom for the Jewish people – a time to remember resilience, hope, and the enduring power of heritage.

Each symbol on the plate carries a story, connecting generations through the shared journey from slavery to freedom.



Belinda Johnson