



# The ANCHOR



A publication of St. Paul's United Methodist Church • Williamsburg, IA  
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Vision Statement: *...to be a church where you can SEE Christ*

# Happy Easter!

These words are at the core of our Christian faith. When we wish each other “Happy Easter”, we’re affirming and celebrating the resurrection of Jesus. “Happy Easter” brings Jesus’ life and teaching into focus, and makes sense of his death as a prelude to God’s gift of new life for us.

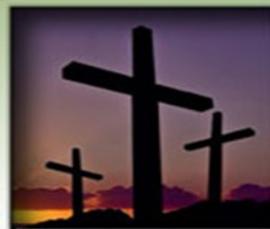
I’m a big fan of Easter – the music and flowers, the surprises waiting inside hidden eggs, the sweet jellybeans and chocolate bunnies, children laughing and families gathering together. All these things point us back to “Happy Easter” and the reason we have to celebrate.

I love to read the Easter stories from the Bible. (This year we’re focusing on Luke 19 – 24.) They remind me of who we are as people of faith, and of the foundation of all that we do as a church together. We are people who continue to follow Jesus – through death to life – and serve others as he did.

I’m looking forward to wishing you “Happy Easter!” this month. And I hope you’re ready to share this same message with everyone you know too.

Grace and Peace, Pastor John

## Holy Week Schedule



*Palm Sunday,  
Saturday, March 27th at  
5:00pm  
Sunday, March 28th at  
8:30am and 10:30am  
Message  
“Seeing is Believing”  
Luke 19:29-48*

*Maundy Thursday,  
April 1st  
Services at 12:00pm  
and 6:30pm  
Message  
“Sifting Your Soul”  
Luke 22:7-38*

*Good Friday,  
April 2nd  
Services at  
12:00pm and  
6:30pm  
Message  
“Sacrifice”  
Luke 22:39-23:50*

*Easter, April 4th  
Services at 8:30am  
and 10:30am  
Message  
“Seven Miles From  
Here”  
Luke 24:1-12, 13-35  
(No Saturday pm  
service on April 3rd)*



We hope you've had a chance to check out our Online Bible Storytime! We have one more month that we'll be sharing with you before taking a break for the summer. Thank you very much to our artists who have been part of this ministry: Jenny Kleinmeyer, Karen Phelps, Lauren Klosterboer and Brittany Kahler, who we'll be featuring in April.



Because of Holy Week,  
we will not have our  
Ladies Luncheon in April.

**In-Person Worship Available**

Although some of the restrictions have been lifted in our state, the Bishop and Cabinet have chosen to keep Methodist churches under the same guidelines we've had for the past 6 months or so. This does still allow us to have in-person worship so if you're comfortable, we'd love to have you here for one of our worship services. Services will continue to be:

- Saturday evenings at 5:00pm**
- Sunday mornings at 8:30am and 10:30am**

Go to our website for more information and/or to sign up for a service. We will continue to live-feed our 10:30am service for those of you watching online.

**Worship Online**  
Stay connected to Christ and to the Church

Please continue take the time to join us in worship each week. Worship services are posted on our website, just click on the link on the home page to go to our Youtube channel. You can also find it posted on our Facebook page.

[www.stpaulsumcwilliamsburg.com](http://www.stpaulsumcwilliamsburg.com)



- ◆ **SUNDAY, MAY 16TH—SENIOR SUNDAY**
- ◆ **SUNDAY MAY 23RD—CONFIRMATION SUNDAY**



To my St. Paul's Church family...I want to announce that I will be leaving my position at St. Paul's at the end of April. Some circumstances have changed in my life, so I have decided to take a risk and make a move I have always wanted to make! So, with full support of my family and friends, I am moving to Tucson, AZ! I travel there yearly and have felt the call to move for a while now. Those who know me, know that one of my biggest struggles is discerning God's will over my own. However, on my last trip, I spent a lot of time in prayer, and I do believe I was blessed with complete peace with the decision. Praise God!! Leaving this church will not be easy for me. St. Paul's is the place that I truly discovered who God really is. It wasn't just one circumstance, but a number of truly meaningful experiences I have had here. Words cannot express the heartfelt gratefulness I feel for you all! I have made my best friends here and I have discovered most of all that I was never alone. I have truly loved my position here at the church and will miss it very much. This decision has not been an easy one, but I do feel like the timing is right.

With all that said, I would like to thank all of you who have supported me through all the trials I have been through over the years. Everyone knows that I say exactly what's on my mind, so I will close with this... You are truly a blessing to me and I will forever keep all of you in my heart! Keep trudging on through this unfortunate situation with the virus. Keep serving the Lord as you have always done. Most of all, keep being the positive, loving, supportive church family that I have grown to call my own.

With much love and thankfulness to you all, Kerry



Welcome to month 6 of Virtual Sunday School: Simply Loved! While the Lenten Season feels very different than it has in the past, it is still a wonderful time to reflect and celebrate how new beginnings come from dark times. As Spring has officially begun, we are also reminded that winter doesn't last forever and beautiful blooms of hope will always poke through. This season of HOPE is definitely encouraging in so many ways.

During April, we will meet our new Memory Buddy, Guac the Iguana. I don't know about you, but I'm really excited to learn more about iguanas! How interesting! I can't wait!

The theme through the month of April is: Never Fear, Jesus is Here! This is such a beautiful reminder that Jesus rescues us and there is always light after the darkest days. Just as Jesus rescued us by dying on the cross, Jesus continues to rescue us in unexpected ways!

Our stories this month come from the books of Titus, Luke and Mark. We will be reading and learning more about: Jesus being born, Jesus calms a storm, Jesus forgives a thief, and Jesus comes back to life! We hope you'll join us for this powerful month of stories! What a great time to spend 20 minutes a week with your kids, appreciating Jesus and his love and ultimate sacrifice.

Please don't forget to interact in our Kids Club Facebook group. We encourage you to share your photos in the group, by email or however you feel comfortable. We miss you ALL! Please check in so we can see your smiles!

As we wrap up our Lenten season, we continue to pray for each of "our kids" and your families. We lift you up in prayers of love, encouragement and ask God to provide, protect and care for each of you. May each of you remember, each and every day, that you are special, treasured and above all..Simply Loved.



We have received information for camp opportunities for our kids and youth for this summer. We will leave it up to parents on where their child(ren) attends, but ask that you let us know so that we can still contribute a portion of the registration cost since we won't have our normal fundraisers.

**Wesley Woods and Lake Okoboji United Methodists Camps:**

Go separately to each camp website for dates and registration information. [www.wesleywoodsiowa.org](http://www.wesleywoodsiowa.org) or [www.okobojicamp.com](http://www.okobojicamp.com). Registration is going on now.

**East Iowa Bible Camp:** Go to <https://loveeibc.org> for complete information. Registration started March 1st.

**Summer Games University:** Info on back page.

**Vital Statistics**

As of 3/24/21

Total Income - \$55,002

Total Expenses -\$54,474

**The ANCHOR is a publication of St. Paul's United Methodist Church**  
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**Custodian:** Kelly Loftus

**Editor:** Sonja Parsons

**Deadline for news for the May**

**ANCHOR** is April 22nd. Email info to Sonja or drop it off at the church office.

# SPUMY (St. Paul's United Methodist Youth)



**Summer Games University**  
**NEW LOCATION! Central College, Pella**  
**Saturday, July 3rd through Wednesday, July 7th**  
Completed 6th-12 graders are invited to join us for Summer Games University! It's a little different this year since they had to change locations therefore changing the dates! Go to [www.sgu.camp](http://www.sgu.camp) to register! It's okay if you aren't sure who you will room with, just put down St. Paul's youth and we can figure it out closer to time.

Total cost is \$349 (church covers \$100). A \$79 deposit is due with online registration.

If you need financial assistance, please contact the office. There are funds available through our church as well as through SGU. We will not be having additional fundraisers this year.

Join us on Wednesday Evenings at 6:15 pm! Just one more month before our summer break! There will be no SPUMY March 31st, during Holy Week.

Contact the office to sign up to eat at 6:00pm each week.



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