

**October 8, 2023 19th Sunday of Pentecost**



### **Come Dream with us at an IDEAS CAFÉ!!**

By now, I'm sure you have received your postcard with the date for you to attend your session of the Ideas Café meeting. Remember, if you can't attend on the date you are scheduled, please let Barb know. The other dates available are listed below and you are welcome to come to any of them.

**Here are the available dates for the Ideas Café:**

Thursday	October	5th	6:30-8 pm
Sunday	October	8th	3-4:30 pm
Tuesday	October	10th	6:30-8 pm
Thursday	October	12th	6:30-8 pm

As far as the meeting, you and a cohort of about 20 neighbors will be invited to come together in the Fellowship Hall at the St Paul Church to engage in the first level of conversation about our campus and future. In our 90 minutes together, we will pray, recall our vision and mission statements, and have brief discussions around 7 questions while recording ideas.

It is critical that we hear many voices and your voice as we gather information for future projects and so, hence invited, RSVP yes or no to Barb Kleis at [kleis.barb@gmail.com](mailto:kleis.barb@gmail.com) or by phone at 319-462-4061. Your voice is important, please attend one of these meetings!!

After all the IDEA CAFÉs have been held, the ideas will be collated and shared before the next round of gatherings.

**HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!!!**



ST. PATRICK'S  
**FALL FESTIVAL**  
ROAST BEEF & HAM DINNER

**SUNDAY 10.15.23** | **11AM - 2PM**  
Lawrence Community Center  
600 Main St, Anamosa


Ham, Roast Beef, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Homegrown Corn, Coleslaw\*, Sauer Kraut\*, Dinner Rolls\*, Pickled Beets, Desserts\*, Milk, Coffee, & Lemonade

**HOMEMADE NOODLES, COUNTRY STORE, CRAFTS, CHILDREN'S GAMES, GIFTS, SILENT AUCTION, RAFFLE & BINGO!**

**TICKETS**  
Adults \$14 • Children (5-10yrs) \$7  
Children (4 and under) Free - Carry-Out Available  
Tickets may be purchased at the church office or at the door.

**\$1 RAFFLE TICKETS**  
for the chance to win up to \$500.

**\*HOMEMADE ITEMS!**



**Fall Work Day**  
**October 14**

**EWALU**  
Camp & Retreat Center

Join volunteers, families, and church groups to help Ewalu get ready for the winter season. Take time to explore camp and meet staff and other volunteers ... come Friday evening to enjoy a campfire, and spend the night at Ewalu for free, our way of thanking you for helping!

A variety of projects are being prepared for all ages and abilities. If you can't be here for the weekend, we have plenty of things for volunteers at any time. Just give us a call!

📍 37776 Alpha Ave, Strawberry Point, IA  
(camp entrance is 3 miles west of town, on Iowa Hwy 3)

**For more information:**

📞 563-933-4700

🌐 [www.ewalu.org/event/fall-work-day](http://www.ewalu.org/event/fall-work-day)

**WEEKEND SCHEDULE**

**Friday, Oct. 13:** Come for an evening campfire and spend the night at Ewalu.

**Saturday, Oct. 14:**

Volunteer Work Day

8:00 a.m. Arrival  
9:00 a.m. Work Projects  
Noon Lunch  
1:00 p.m. Work Projects  
4:00 p.m. Departure

*A beautiful time  
of year to visit  
Camp Ewalu!*

**Contact with questions:**

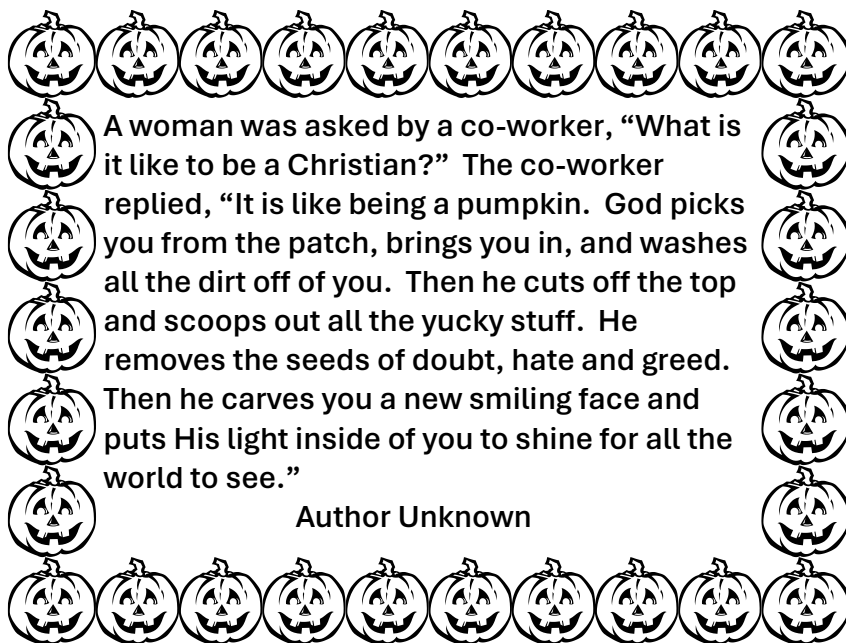
📞 Paul Frantsen at  
563-933-4700

**RSVP for lodging:**

📞 Diane Parker at  
563-933-4700 or email  
[office@ewalu.org](mailto:office@ewalu.org)



**Hale Tap** may not sound like a place for a church gathering, but their wonderful food is what will bring us back to enjoy **Dinner with Friends!** Please join us on **October 19th at 5:00 pm.** Address is **5522 Co. Rd. E 45, Wyoming.** Hope to see you there! Questions: Sherri 319-981-0283. All are welcome!



A woman was asked by a co-worker, "What is it like to be a Christian?" The co-worker replied, "It is like being a pumpkin. God picks you from the patch, brings you in, and washes all the dirt off of you. Then he cuts off the top and scoops out all the yucky stuff. He removes the seeds of doubt, hate and greed. Then he carves you a new smiling face and puts His light inside of you to shine for all the world to see."

Author Unknown

**Prayer for Discernment**

Lord, we know that You love us and that You have great plans for us. But sometimes, we are overwhelmed by the thought of our future. Show us how to walk forward together. As we explore the various options which lie before us, help us to listen openly to others, and to pay attention to what is in the depth of our hearts. In this way, may we hear Your call to a way of life which will allow us to love, and allow us to serve others with the special gifts You have given us. Amen

**Your Legacy: Family, Church and Charity,  
October 22, 2023 Between Services 9:15-10:15am**

- Are there people and organizations you care about and want to help financially? Learn strategies for leaving a legacy.
- Explore spontaneous, intentional and strategic/planned giving.
- See examples of people who have established legacy gift strategies.
- Learn about foundations for charitable giving with Thrivent guest speakers Teresa Hackenmiller & Justin Gingerich

**Sunday, October 22, 2023 Between services 9:15-10:15a.m.**



## AN EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT AVAILABLE TO YOU

As a member, employee, volunteer or participant in an ELCA congregation, you're eligible to join the ELCA Federal Credit Union.

### WHY JOIN?

► Get great members-only rates on:

- Auto Loans
- Credit Cards
- No-fee Checking Accounts\*
- Personal Loans
- Home Loans
- Savings Accounts

Plus, have access to a network of more than 34,000 surcharge-free ATMs nationwide

► Our not-for-profit financial cooperative shares back profits with credit union members in the form of better rates, fewer fees and enhanced services.

► We operate in ways consistent with the church's values. It's a socially responsible way to do your banking.

**Want to learn more?**

Call 877-715-1111, visit us online at [elcafcu.org](http://elcafcu.org), or scan the code below with your mobile phone's camera app.



Anamosa Rotary

# Pancake Breakfast

Pumpkin & Regular Flavored

## Sunday, October 8th

Serving 8 AM – Noon

Lawrence Community Center

Free will donation accepted  
**Proceeds will go to future Rotary projects**

## Two new summer prayer opportunities at St Paul led by Pastor Rodney!

**Drumming Circle:** Join others in the church chapel from 5:30-6:30 pm the last Monday of the month for drum prayer (see dates below). 10 hand drums are available, first come, first to choose. We will begin with sharing gritudes and intentions, then drum, ending with a drum wash to those who wish it.

Drumming is a form of contemplative prayer that invites us to be present to the Heartbeat of God. As we listen to and feel the drums, we experience the One pulse that gives rise to all the rhythms and energies of life. It is actually from the feminine energy of the divine that drumming emerges, and men drum to draw themselves from the head into the heart, seeking harmony.

**Upcoming dates for 2023 will be: Mondays, Oct. 30, Nov. 27, (no Dec date)**

**Upcoming dates for 2024 will be: Mondays, Jan. 29, Feb. 26, March 25, April 29, May 27**

Create some intentional time for Focused Communal Silence (Meditation) - The benefits of meditation are real, but it is often difficult to make room for silence in our lives. Communal accountability can help uphold the commitment. Join with others in the St Paul Church on Monday and/or Thursday mornings, 6:30-7:00 a.m. for Meditation Prayer. We will pray out loud the Welcoming Prayer, have 21 minutes of silent meditation, then close with the Canticale of Simeon.



**FREE Goodies, Games, Hot Dogs, Chips & Juice**



**ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

# **Trunk or Treat**

**Sunday, October 29th 4-6pm**

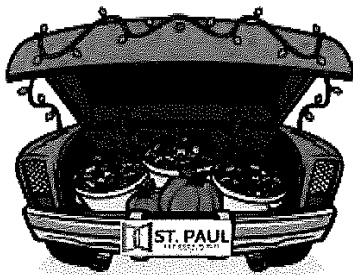
**Come be a part of this Community event with  
your little ones, loved ones, friends and family! It will be a SAFE  
& FUN event for All!**

**COSTUMES are welcome but not required .**

**Our cars, trucks and SUV's will be DECORATED with different  
themes. Children can visit each vehicle for a SPECIAL TREAT! Win  
prizes at each game, Little Debbie's Cake Walk, Get their bellies  
filled with some grilled hot dogs, chips and a drink! Come be a  
part of a Fun, Family Friendly Community Event! All are Welcome  
& Accepted!**

**We have several local Organizations and Businesses that will  
be here handing out**

**Goodies as well!**



**FREE AND OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY!!**

**Sunday, October 29th**

**4-6pm**

**In the big Gravel Parking lot on the  
corner of Huber & East Cedar streets in Anamosa.**

**First Reading: Deuteronomy 5:1-21; 6:4-9 NIV**

*Moses summoned all Israel and said: Hear, Israel, the decrees and laws I declare in your hearing today. Learn them and be sure to follow them. The LORD our God made a covenant with us at Horeb. It was not with our ancestors that the LORD made this covenant, but with us, with all of us who are alive here today. The LORD spoke to you face to face out of the fire on the mountain. (At that time I stood between the LORD and you to declare to you the word of the LORD, because you were afraid of the fire and did not go up the mountain.) And he said: "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.*

*"You shall have no other gods before me.*

*"You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments.*

*"You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name.*

*"Observe the Sabbath day by keeping it holy, as the LORD your God has commanded you. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your male or female servant, nor your ox, your donkey or any of your animals, nor any foreigner residing in your towns, so that your male and female servants may rest, as you do. Remember that you were slaves in Egypt and that the LORD your God brought you out of there with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm. Therefore the LORD your God has commanded you to observe the Sabbath day*

*"Honor your father and your mother, as the LORD your God has commanded you, so that you may live long and that it may go well with you in the land the LORD your God is giving you.*

*"You shall not murder.*

*"You shall not commit adultery.*

*"You shall not steal.*

*"You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor*

*"You shall not covet your neighbor's wife. "You shall not set your desire on your neighbor's house or land, his male or female servant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor."*

*Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.*

Word of God, Word of Life **Thanks be to God**

The author of this section of Deuteronomy is concerned that as the Israelites wander through lands on their way to the Promised Land, they will be tempted to fall in with the people who already live there and begin worshipping other gods. This is especially true when the Israelites experience prosperity. The inclination is to give tribute to the gods to whom the people attribute the abundance. But the author wants the Israelites to never forget the works of Yahweh {written YHWH} God in freeing them from oppression in Egypt. YHWH is a loving and personal God who desires their loyalty and affection alone. We also hear the famous *Shema* in today's text. This is the acclamation which evoked the ancient Hebrews devotion and love for their God, and which is still spoken twice daily by devout Jews in their morning and evening prayer. Often this phrase is placed inside a *mezuzah* (a small container shaped like a scroll) and attached to the door lintel in Jewish homes. Each time they pass through the doorway, they touch the mezuzah and speak the *Shema*. The acclamation is this: "Hear O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord alone!" YHWH deserves Israel's deep loyalty and affection because YHWH ended their cruel bondage in Egypt. Note too that the statement is plural and collective. Each time, the person praying is reminded that s/he is part of a nation whose God acted on their behalf.

## **Psalms 46**

*God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging. There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy place where the Most High dwells. God is within her, she will not fall; God will help her at break of day. Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall; he lifts his voice, the earth melts. The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. Come and see what the LORD has done, the desolations he has brought on the earth. He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth. He breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire. He says, "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth." The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.*

## **Gospel: Mark 12:28-31 NIV**

*One of the teachers of the law came and heard them debating. Noticing that Jesus had given them a good answer, he asked him, "Of all the commandments, which is the most important?" "The most important one," answered Jesus, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these."*

For months, the scribes and lawyers and Pharisees and Sadducees have been trying to trip up Jesus so they can dishonor him, or better yet, arrest him under the Law. But in today's story, a sincere scribe asks Jesus which he believes to be the first or most important commandment. Jesus notes the man's sincerity by responding directly; no games or shaming or quips or parables. In good Jewish tradition, Jesus cites the *Shema*. According to him, this is the basis for all action. But then Jesus goes a step further and combines all the other laws into one, namely: "Love your neighbor as yourself." The scribe is pleased with Jesus' response and comes to insight about Jesus' foundation for teaching; it is self-emptying love, not the sacrifice of other objects or animals that ultimately pleases YHWH. This could have been considered an affront to the Jewish tradition, but the scribe hears in Jesus' response the echoes of the prophet Hosea: be loyal to the relationship, even in the face of dishonor from humans. The scribe understood that love was not an emotional sentiment that makes the heart race but rather is the basis of commitment and responsible actions on behalf of others, and so he affirms Jesus, and is in turn told by Jesus, "You are not far from the Kingdom of God." One of the leaders who were so frequently opposed to Jesus was actually affirmed by Jesus in his quest for righteousness!

The Kingdom that Jesus was referring to is the one here and now rooted in love of YHWH and neighbor. Mark's readers would have been forced to ask themselves how their love of God was being shown to neighbors. They knew that Jesus had loved God and neighbor even unto death. Many in Mark's community could have answered that their suffering out of loyalty to God was their participation in the Kingdom established by Christ.

## **Taking it Home**

- Put the *Shema* into your own words: "Hear O \_\_\_\_! The Lord is our God. The Lord alone!"
- List three things, activities, and/or people who distract you from keeping God first in your life.
- Put something like a *mezuzah* near your door to remind you to say a quick prayer to God as you come and go.
- You just communed with Jesus and the other believers at this Eucharist... name one thing you can do today or tomorrow to show your love of neighbor.

**Mindfulness (set aside five minutes. breathe and read through three times. Which words or ideas hold energy for you? What images and feelings emerge in your imagination?)** Jesus marks a new direction in evolution toward integrated being, healthy relationships, and healing presence, all of which contribute to the act of a new future. As the wellspring of divine love emerging from within, Jesus shows us what it means to be a human person and the way to deepen our humanity toward the fullness of life. His disciples recognized him as the Christ, the anointed One (Mk 8: 27), the One who will bring about a new future, a new creation, and who has already done so in our present age.

The Christ emerges in Jesus, and the humanity of Jesus shows us what the Christ looks like; his humanity is our humanity, and his life is our life. What took place in Jesus' life must take place in ours as well if the fullness of Christ is to come to be. "Our salvation is necessary for the completion of Christ," wrote the Cistercian Isaac of Stella. Christ is the future of this evolutionary cosmos, the One who trinitizes creation into a household of unity, the integrated unified center of persons in love. *Ilia Delio, FSA, (2011-11-09). The Emergent Christ. Orbis Books. Kindle Edition (1120+).*

### Please Pray for the Following

(Why people want prayers isn't important, *the prayers are!*)

We pray for all who need healing, strength or comfort those who are grieving especially Donna Lytle (cousin of Betty Hunter). For peace in our nation & world, for safety in our schools and communities and for those seeking a safe home. To add a name call or email Kathy at 319-462-4841/ stpaulanamosa@gmail.com. Names will be listed for 4 weeks and may be renewed.

*Next Week October 15th Readings  
Ruth 1:1-17 (4:13-17)  
Mark 3:33-35*

**GriefShare** is available upon request. Please contact Nancy Douglas if interested 319-551-3358.

**AA meets** in the lower level of the CE building on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm.

**Jones County Food Bank:** Help is always needed at the Jones County Community Food Bank - food and funds have fallen critically low. For the last few months, the number of families and individuals requesting foods has been increasing and the shelves are almost bare. Funds are also being diminished by the demands of purchasing food at higher prices.

To donate money, checks may be written to Jones County Community Food Bank and mailed to 105 Broadway Place, Anamosa IA 52205. Items needed this week: Peas, pancake mix and syrup, canned tuna, Mac & Cheese and personal care items. **Please place items in the back of the church for collection by St. Paul volunteers OR call the Food Bank to make delivery arrangements (462-4343)**

**Recorded services are found on St. Paul website, YouTube page or Facebook page.**

**National Suicide Prevention Lifeline  
Available 24 Hours  
Languages: English, Spanish  
800-273-8255**

#### **Bread Bakers:**

October: Verna Lewison  
November: Dee Ihlenfeldt  
December: Sheri Evans  
3 Communion Eve Services: B&M Lubben

#### **Deliver Food to Food Bank:**

October: Barb Kleis  
November: Ralph & Sandy Andresen  
December: Myra Powell

#### **Wednesday, October 4**

- 8:00 am Men's Worship Group—CE Building
- 6-7:30 WD4
- \* **6:00pm Evening Service**  
Comm Prep: Marlene Serbousek  
Greeters: Summer Parks  
Readings/Prayers: WD4  
Comm Server: Jason Geltz  
PowerPoint: Myra Powell

#### **Sunday, October 8**

- \* **8:00 am Service**  
Comm Prep: Jeff / Kristi Fortune  
Greeter: Mike/Nancy Bickford  
Readings/Prayers : Virginia Danielson  
Comm Server: Jeff/Kristi Fortune  
PowerPoint: Lois Ocenosak  
Livestream: Skylar
- \* **10:30am Service**  
Comm Prep: Nancy Lyon Douglas  
Greeter: Weaver Family  
Readings/Prayers: Kaileen Weaver  
Comm Server: Cathy Crowe / Curtis Weaver  
PowerPoint: G/L Chrisman  
Livestream: S Goldsmith

#### **Tuesday, October 10**

- \* 1:30pm Scripture Study
- \* 6:00pm Grief Support by request, call Nancy Douglas
- \* 7:00pm AA—LL CE Building

#### **Wednesday, October 11**

- 8:00 am Men's Worship Group—CE Building
- 6-7:30 WD4
- \* **6:00pm Evening Service**  
Comm Prep: Ken/Pam Humpal  
Greeters: Ken/Pam Humpal  
Readings/Prayers: WD4  
Comm Server: Ken Humpal  
PowerPoint: Beth Hora

#### **Sunday, October 15**

- \* **8:00 am Service**  
Comm Prep: Nancy Stout  
Greeter: Dale/Pat Jensen  
Readings/Prayers : Pat Jensen  
Comm Server: Dale/Pat Jensen  
PowerPoint: Grant Lubben  
Livestream: Skylar
- \* **10:30am Service**  
Comm Prep: Linda Kenny  
Greeter: Sullivans  
Readings/Prayers: Amy Fuller Belding  
Comm Server: Amy Fuller Belding / Greta Lundsgaard  
PowerPoint: Addie Dales  
Livestream: Ingrid Vaughn

#### **Tuesday, October 17**

- \* 1:30pm Scripture Study
- \* 6:00pm Grief Support by request, call Nancy Douglas
- \* 7:00pm AA—LL CE Building

#### **Wednesday, October 18**

- \* 8:00 am Men's Worship Group—CE Building
- \* **6:00pm Evening Service**  
Comm Prep: Marlene Serbousek  
Greeters: Orlyn / Kathy Brunssen  
Readings & Prayers: Beth Hora  
Comm Server: Beth Hora  
PowerPoint: Myra Powell

**Mailing Address:**  
**St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
**103 East Cedar Street**  
**Anamosa, IA 52205**



**CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Oct 8	Crop Walk @ Wapsipinicon State Park
Oct 9	All Leadership/Council Mtg @ 6:00 pm
Oct 22	Confirmation 3-5 pm
Oct 22	Your Legacy: Family, Church & Charity 9:15-10:15 am
Oct 19	Treats on the Streets 5:30-6:30
Oct 19	Dinner With Friends @ Hale Tap 5:00 pm
Oct 29	Trunk or Treat (4-6 p.m)
Nov 12	Confirmation 3-5 pm