

June 13, 2021 3rd Sunday of Pentecost

Mailing/Offices: 103 E. Cedar Street, Anamosa IA 52205 Website: www.stpaulanamosa.com Fax: (319) 462-4843

Father's Day Balloons

Do you have a father or father figure in your life you would like to remember or honor??

Well, here's your chance! Father's Day is June 20th and this year we will be selling balloons for \$2 like we have in years past. Help us decorate our sanctuary in a fun filled memorable way! The extra funds that we receive will also go to our Missions Trip for this summer! Please feel free to sign up inside of the C.E. building (office), Entryway of Church and at our Outdoor service. **Sign-up ends Sunday, June 13th at 10:30 service.** We will honor them with a slideshow at our recorded service for that week and in our prayer intentions.

Any questions please feel free to contact Kaileen Weaver-951-553-5728
cyfmstpaulanamosa@gmail.com



Date: Monday, June 21st-Thursdays June 24th

Age: Preschool-5th graders

Time: 9a.m. - 11:15a.m.

Registration Required By: ~~Friday, June 11th @ 12p.m.~~

New Deadline: Thursday, June 17 @ 12 p.m.

Bringing VBS to Adventure Island!

We look forward to taking your child along on this Adventure as we learn our Vector Verse " Arise! Shine! Your light has come; the LORD'S glory has shone upon you. Isaiah 60:1

We will be having VBS outdoors but if rain is in the forecast will move things indoors in separate classrooms. We will still be following CDC guidelines and making sure All feel welcome and safe while Learning about Letting our Light shine! Speaking of Letting our light shine... We hope you spread the news and invite a friend or neighbor so they too can learn how to let their light shine! **We will have a Fun Group Opener, Snacks, Science, Games, Bible Lesson, Bible Memory and Music :-)** Weather permitting we may end our VBS week with a Family night in the park on Friday, the 25th with water balloons and popsicles!

Please register online through our St. Paul Website or on our St. Paul Facebook Page under Events.

Please be sure to follow us on our St. Paul Anamosa Facebook page for any Updates or Changes!
<https://www.facebook.com/stpaulanamosa/?ref=bookmarks>

If you have Any questions please feel free to contact Kaileen Weaver via email:
cyfmstpaulanamosa@gmail.com Or Cell # 951-553-5728

Please Pray for the Following People

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

Ed Allaire, Leslie Schwartz, Marty Rowland, Angie Keller; and for all facing challenges from the corona virus and natural disasters.

I received an anonymously submitted envelope on my desk with the request to publish a beautiful Father's Day story in the Pulse. We do not publish anonymous material. If you would like it to be considered for publication, please contact me so we can attach your name. Thank You, Lois

GriefShare will meet on Tuesday evenings at 6:00 pm in the lower level of the CE building. Masks are suggested but social distancing will be enforced. If you would like to attend please call Nancy Douglas for details at 319-551-3358.

AA meets in the lower level of the CE building on Tuesday evenings at 8:00 pm.

Jones County Food Bank: To donate money, make checks payable to Jones County Community Food Bank and mailed to 105 Broadway Place, Anamosa IA 52205. For appointment to drop off/pick up call Julie at 462-4343. They are in need of soups, saltines, ketchup, diced tomatoes & cereal. **You may also drop off food donations to the church office during regular business hours or during WD4. Please place items under the table in the entryway. A church member will contact Julie to make arrangements for delivery.**

Rhubarb Needed: We are pleased to announce that St. Paul will be offering hospitality and food to the RAGBRAI riders in July. In planning ahead, we will be needing lots of fruit pies! We would love to get some rhubarb in the freezer. If you would be willing to share some of your rhubarb harvest with us, please contact Nancy Stout at 319-480-1336. Thank you!

Introduction: The mustard seed becomes a great shrub that shelters the birds, recalling ancient images of the tree of life. We'd expect a cedar or a sequoia, but Jesus finds the power of God better imaged in a tiny, no-account seed. It's not the way we expect divine activity to look. Yet the tree of life is here, in the cross around which we gather, the tree into which we are grafted through baptism, the true vine that nourishes us with its fruit in the cup we share. It may not appear all that impressive, but while nobody's looking it grows with a power beyond our understanding.

First Reading: Ezekiel 17:22-24 NIV

The major Hebrew prophet Ezekiel is poetically describing the promised actions of Yahweh God on behalf of his people, Judah, who have been in exile for nearly fifty years. From the humiliation of their exile in Babylon (586 BCE) begun by the rotting tree, King Zedekiah, God promises to raise up a future king in the line and likeness of David. This tree (from the root of Jesse, King David's father) will be set on the heights in Jerusalem, on the mountaintop of Yahweh's home, so that all the other trees, representing the kings of the other nations, can look upon it once again to see the awesomeness of Israel's God.

Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15

Second Reading: Paul's second letter to the Christian community in Corinth, Greece 5:6-17 NIV

Paul continues to speak about the paradox, or apparent inherent contradiction, found in the Christian way of life because his Greek opponents claimed that Paul's suffering was a sign that he was not an apostle. They would say, "Why would your God treat his apostle this way? Wouldn't God protect you from all harm?" Paul's initial comments acknowledge that a life filled with pain and suffering often causes one to pine for another kind of life, one that is painless and worry free. This inclination led later Church Fathers to build a theology on the reward of the perfect heavenly realm promised after physical death. But, according to Paul, while we fantasize about being swept to another reality, we remain in this mortal, fragile shell and attempt to make the best of it for the sake of Christ, and others around us who doubt God cares at all. While we are here on earth, we can bring others to an encounter with the suffering Christ of glory by the way we face and embrace hardships.

Paul refutes his pagan opponents who care little for the body or this life when he says that regardless of our place, whether here in human physical form or unformed in the energy of Holy Spirit's potential, we move with Christ and strive to remain in His will. In this sense, we focus on what is consistent between the now and the not yet, seeing that the future world is intimately connected to this world. Christians are invited to see things differently; we avoid despair because we are enlightened by a faith that hopes in Christ. We place our trust in the Christ who is really here with us now, even in our suffering. One glance at a crucifix can remind us....

Gospel: Mark 4:26-34 NIV

Jesus teaches publicly with parables and then speaks privately with his followers. Why? How do you respond emotionally when you see a group of people leaning in and whispering to each other while you're on the outside? Most of us are just insecure enough that we would suspect they are plotting something against us or saying mean things or are

intentionally excluding me. It is a given that Jesus' own group of followers did something similar to this because they were part of his in-group and were privy to certain thoughts of his. It was a privilege to be on the inside. However, Jesus did not want those outside his group to suspect the worst of them and so he taught in public. Those who heard him in the public square were left to make their own conclusions about the lesson in the parable while the disciples were given additional private instruction on his intention for the story. Jesus is teaching his apostles because he will send them to take this critical message to the world.

The parables we hear today are meant to reveal aspects of God and God's reign in this world. The first parable indicates that if God's kingdom is dependent on human efforts, it is liable to fail. If, however, humans are able to rely on God and trust God as their patron (one who gives freely for the sake of another without expecting return) great things can happen. Yields beyond what is expected can and will be realized.

In addition, humans have the option to choose how they see the activity of God in the heavenly kingdom. Is it small with modest expectations, like one would have of the tiny mustard seed upon seeing it unplanted; or, is God's kingdom surprisingly beyond our expectations and able to offer secure shade to many of God's creatures who seek shelter there? Is the heavenly kingdom better experienced by the small in-group or in the public square? Listeners are challenged to consider how much trust they are willing to put in God's providence.

Taking It Home:

--Describe a way you see life differently than your neighbors who do not have faith in Jesus.

--Can you identify a time you realized results that were far beyond what you expected? To what did you attribute the results? Did you consider that it was for God's glory and not your own?

--Are you part of Jesus' in-group? What is he whispering to you today?

--Write a parable to convey the truth Jesus is whispering to you and share it in the public square.

Mindfulness (set aside three minutes. Breathe. Read slowly three times. Which words or ideas hold energy for you? What images emerge in you?)

"Our stories are not meant for everyone. Hearing them is a privilege, and we should always ask ourselves this before we share: "Who has earned the right to hear my story?" If we have one or two people in our lives who can sit with us and hold space for our shame stories, and love us for our strengths and struggles, we are incredibly lucky. If we have a friend, or small group of friends, or family who embraces our imperfections, vulnerabilities, and power, and fills us with a sense of belonging, we are incredibly lucky."

— Brené Brown

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

Reservations are no longer needed. Mask wearing and social distancing encouraged!

Wednesday, June 9

- * **6:00pm Worship**
Comm. Prep: Paula Sisler
Greeter: Ben Coyle
Reader: Ben Coyle
PowerPoint: Barb Kleis

Thursday, June 10 11:00 am VBS prep

Friday, June 11 5:00 pm VBS prep

Sunday, June 13

- * **10:30am Worship** at Wapsiana Park (bring chair)
Comm Prep: Dee Ihlenfeldt
Greeter: Shawn Countryman family
Reader & Prayers: Nancy Douglas

Tuesday, June 15

- * 1:30pm Scripture study
- * 6:00pm Grief Support—LL CE building
- * 8:00pm AA— LL CE building

Wednesday, June 16

- * **6:00pm Worship**
Comm. Prep: TBA
Greeter: Darla Algoe
Reader: Darla Algoe
PowerPoint: remote

Thursday, June 17

- * 3:00 pm HACAP distribution

Sunday, June 20

- * **10:30am Worship** at Wapsiana Park
Comm Prep: Jan & Verna
Greeter: Jamie/Kinsley Hamblin
Reader & Prayers: Lois Ocnosak

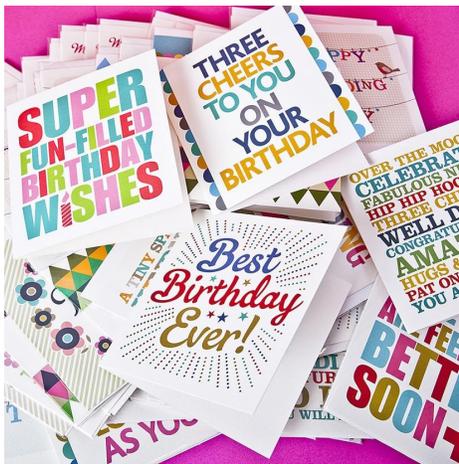
St Paul Staff Emails and Phone Numbers

Pastor Rodney	blumlwa@gmail.com	(319) 389-6153
Nancy Douglas, Treasurer	njldouglas@hotmail.com	(319) 551-3358
Kaileen Weaver	cyfinstpaulanamosa@gmail.com	(951) 553-5728
Brie Wittenburg	cyfinstpaulanamosa@gmail.com	(319) 975-8186
Lois Ocnosak	stpaulanamosa@gmail.com	(319) 721-9893

Please call us if we can be of assistance. PLEASE leave a message if we cannot answer. We will return your call ASAP.

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church
103 East Cedar Street
Anamosa, IA 52205

Return Service Requested



90th Birthday Card Shower:

My sister, Marilyn Schmidt, is turning 90 years old on June 22, and I am hoping that she will get at least that many cards. Her address: 2501 Highway 13, #102, Marion Iowa 52302. Thanks so much! Dee Ihlenfeldt”

Did you know . . .

A Chinese bamboo tree takes **five years to grow**. ... It has to be watered and fertilized in the ground where it has been planted **every day**. It doesn't break through the ground for **five years**.

Then after all that waiting: Bamboo is one of the fastest-growing plants on the planet, with some species can reach full maturity in just 90 days, and most taking just a couple of years.

One bamboo species can grow a massive 35 inches per day (or 1.5 inches per hour).

The 100th Anniversary Celebration is similar to the bamboo tree because it takes a long time to gather all the information needed to create a great celebration.

Thanks to all who have turned in their Bio paragraphs for the 100th Anniversary project. Please continue to turn them in as we would like to include as many members as possible. We will continue to take photos of past activities at St. Paul as well.

Thank you for helping us “water and fertilize our bamboo plant every day” by sharing your photos and info with us. We appreciate your support.

Jan Allaire & Lois Ocenosak