

### **June 11, 2023 Lectionary 10**

### **Leadership Council Members Needed**



The St. Paul faith community will be electing four new members to our Leadership Council this July 16th at the annual meeting. Are you being called by God to serve your faith community in this way? Is there a member vou'd like invite to to being consider nominated for election? If so, contact me at

319-389-6153 and share the good

news. To help in your prayerful discernment, consider this Basic Job Description for a St. Paul Church Council member:

- Be installed at worship.
- Attend Council Retreat.
- Attend monthly, (typically) second Monday, All Leadership/council meetings setting aside 6-9 pm, beginning the second Monday in August.
- Be prepared by reading consent agenda materials {finance report, pastor's report, and relevant materials prior to the monthly meeting.}
- Serve as liaison for one of the church committees/teams working with the members to conduct regular meetings.
- Know and be able to give voice to the mission of St. Paul Lutheran Church.
- Discuss in a respectful and truthful manner keeping the good of the community at heart.
- Resolve issues by first talking with the person/people most directly involved.
- Follow through on agreed upon action items.
- Support the vitality of the faith community by sharing your spiritual gifts and calling them forth from others.
- Extend hospitality.

#### First Reading: The first section of the Book of the Prophet Isaiah 9:1-7 NIV

Nevertheless, there will be no more gloom for those who were in distress. In the past he humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the future he will honor Galilee of the nations, by the Way of the Sea, beyond the Jordan—

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned. You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy; they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest, as warriors rejoice when dividing the plunder. For as in the day of Midian's defeat, you have shattered the yoke that burdens them, the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor. Every warrior's boot used in battle and every garment rolled in blood will be destined for burning, will be fuel for the fire. For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this.

The prophet Isaiah began writing in about 725 BCE as the northern kingdom of Israel was facing a takeover by the powerful Assyrian army. The country of Israel had been comprised by twelve tribes born of the twelve sons of Jacob. But under King Solomon's rule (about 950 BCE), the tribes had split: two in the southern, ten in the northern kingdom. Zebulon and Naphtali were the names of the two sons who established their tribes north of the Sea of Galilee, in the northernmost region of Israel. Subsequently, when the Assyrians conquered the northern kingdom, they overtook these two tribes first because geographically they were closest to Assyria. After they had suffered some abominations, they lived under Assyrian oppression, and Isaiah referred to them as the "people who walked in darkness" because they were required to worship the Assyrian idols and gods rather than be in the light of Yahweh. Assyria also heavily taxed those who lived along the seaward road, a major travel way between the Mediterranean ports of northern Israel and the major cities of Damascus, Syria and others to the East (modern day Iraq and Iran). Isaiah is proclaiming to the northern kingdom in a hopeful tenor because he sees in the new king, Hezekiah, the ushering in of a "messianic" era. His vision included the fall of Assyria and the re-unification of the twelve tribes under this new king. In describing King Hezekiah, Isaiah uses the terms "God-Hero, Wonder Counselor, Prince of Peace" which implies a more than human quality to him. Hezekiah, in the line of the Davidic kings, would be a light for the nation, specifically, those who had been taken under Assyrian rule and now lived in darkness. He was declared "son of God" and was regarded as a superhuman being, one on whom Yahweh's favor rested. Hezekiah reigned in the southern kingdom, in Jerusalem, but Isaiah believed that it was under his rule that the new Israel would be established so that once again they could be the "chosen people," the light to the world. Isaiah refers to the greatness of this day by comparing it to the victory over Midian. Isaiah was invoking a powerful image in the minds of his hearers because "Midian" refers to the victory Gideon had over the Midianites during the Hebrew Exodus from Egypt to the Promised Land. The Midianites were idol worshippers, like the Assyrians, and they had tempted the Israelites into idol worship when their time in the desert grew hard. They took advantage of the impoverished Hebrews for seven years, until finally, Moses was instructed to free his people. Under Moses' watchful eye, Gideon soundly defeated the several thousand strong camel-riding Midianites by surrounding them with many fires in the night and making the noise of a thousand warriors, even though he only had one hundred. The Midianites fled in terror with their camels in tow. Of course, we know in looking back, that Isaiah's prophecy about Hezekiah was not fulfilled. Hezekiah was not able to reunite the nation, but he was able to protect the southern kingdom for another generation. One hundred years later the southern kingdom would be destroyed by the Babylonians (after they had conquered the Assyrians) and again Isaiah the prophet would be called upon to help make sense of it all.

### Psalm 96

Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth. Sing to the LORD, praise his name; proclaim his salvation day after day. Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among all peoples. Worship the LORD in the splendor of his holiness; tremble before him, all the earth. Say among the nations, "The LORD reigns." The world is firmly established, it cannot be moved; he will judge the peoples with equity. Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad; let the sea resound, and all that is in it. Let the fields be jubilant, and everything in them; let all the trees of the forest sing for joy. Let all creation rejoice before the LORD, for he comes, he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world in righteousness and the peoples in his faithfulness.

### John 8:12-18 NIV

When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." The Pharisees challenged him, "Here you are, appearing as your own witness; your testimony is not valid." Jesus answered, "Even if I testify on my own behalf, my testimony is valid, for I know where I came from and where I am going. But you have no idea where I come from or where I am going. You judge by human standards; I pass judgment on no one. But if I do judge, my decisions are true, because I am not alone. I stand with the Father, who sent me. In your own Law it is written that the testimony of two witnesses is true. I am one who testifies for myself; my other witness is the Father, who sent me."

#### Taking it home:

- Recall a time you ignored conventional wisdom or peer pressure in order to do what seemed right. How did you experience "new life" because of your decision?
- Tell about a time someone risked humiliation to help you out when you were in need or made a dumb decision.
- Talk about a time you had great expectations for an event or person and then were let down or disappointed. How did you respond? Did you adjust your expectations or did you become bitter and negative? So many woes result from unrealistic expectations.

Mindfulness: "Christians are usually sincere and well-intentioned people until you get to any real issues of ego, control power, money, pleasure, and security. Then they tend to be pretty much like everybody else. We often given a bogus version of the Gospel, some fast-food religion, without any deep transformation of the self; and the result has been the spiritual disaster of "Christian" countries that tend to be as consumer-oriented, proud, warlike, racist, class conscious, and addictive as everybody else-and often more so, I'm afraid." — Richard Rohr, Breathing Underwater: Spirituality and the 12 Steps

### Friday, June 23, Block Party help needed! It takes a village to be Better Together! Event time is 5-8 p.m.

If you are interested in serving in one of these capacities, contact PRodney at

319-389-6153. Other than set up/ tear down, we will work in two shifts from 5-6:45, 6:30-8:00 p.m. Families encouraged to work together! These are tasks St. Paul is particularly responsible for:

- 1) Popcorn maker 4-6 2-3 per shift
- 2) Garbage 3-6 2 or 3 per shift
- 3) Parking 4 2 per shift
- 4) Grilling hotdogs 6 3 per shift
- 5) Filling Water jugs 4 2 per shift
- 6) Set up 6 3-5 pm
- 7) Electrician whole time
- 8) Tear down 6 8-10 p.m.
- 9) (stage) Blue 60 attendants 2 whole time
- 10) Vendor attendants 1 or 2 per shift

**GET EXCITED!** 

St. Patrick's Catholic Church is in need of plastic bags that can be used to weave sleep mats for the homeless. Bags from Walmart, Fareway, Dollar General, Hy-Vee, and Target work great. We CANNOT use bread bags, subway bags or bags that newspapers come in. Bags can be brought to the Lawrence Community Center or St. Patrick Church any time they are open. Thank you!"



EVERYONE'S INVITED

### ATTENTION IF YOU ARE 65 OR OLDER

Are you 65 or older and own a home in Jones County? If so, please stop by the Assessor's office and see if you are eligible for the New Homestead Tax Exemption. Rm 26 on basement level at bottom of north stairway at the courthouse. You can also call 319-462-2671 and they might do it over the phone too.



# Come enjoy : Cold One" on behalf of **your Father**



## or Father Figure in your life

Celebrate the Father or Father Figure in your life with an Ice Cold Can of Root beer or Stay after the Wednesday, June 14th or Sunday, June 18th services to enjoy a Root Beer Float! Cost will be \$2 a can with any extra proceeds going for the Youth Mission Trip this Summer. Please feel free to sign up in honor of or in memory of the Father or Father Figure in your life inside of the C.E. building (office) or the Back of the Sanctuary.

Sign-ups starts now and ends Thursday, June 8th @12pm. We will also honor the Father's with a slideshow before the services that week

Any questions please feel free to contact Kaileen Weaver Office # 319-462-4841 Cell # 951-553-5728 cyfmstpaulanamosa@gmail.com

### Outdoor Service at the Park

Beginning June 25th, we will be starting our services, weather permitting, on the following dates at the Anamosa Park:

June 25th @ 10:30 a.m.

July 2nd, 9th, 23rd and 30th @ 10:30 a.m.
July 16 10:30 at church followed by Annual Mtng
August 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th @ 10:30 a.m.

6th, 13th, 20th, 27th @ 10:30 a.m. August

September 3rd @ 10:30 a.m.

This ends our Outdoor Service in the Park. All the 6:00 p.m. Wednesday and 8:00 a.m. Sunday services will be held at the church.



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

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. beginning in June for Meditation Prayer. We will pray out loud the Canticle of Zechariah, have 17 minutes of silent meditation, then close with the Canticle of Simeon.

**Drumming Circle**: Join others in the church chapel from 5:15-6:15 pm one of the last Tuesdays of each month for drum prayer. 10 hand drums are available; first come, first to choose. We will begin with sharing gratitudes and intentions, then drum, ending with a drum wash for those who wish it. Weather permitting, we'll drum outside.

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 drumming dates for 2023 will be: June 20, July 25, Aug. 22. Sept. 26, Oct. 24. Nov. 21, Dec. 19.

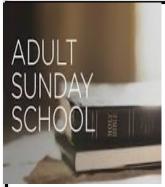
Calling anyone who wants to be a hero to someone within our community by Creatively Connecting & Joyfully Serving @ VBS 2023!

Looking for Assistants for the Registration Table at the start of each day, Bible Story Leader, Craft Leader, Snack Leader, Science Leader, Caring Hands, Listening Ears and Smiling Faces to be a part of this Community VBS. I promise you this is a rewarding experience and will bring a lit-



tle extra sunshine to your summer!

VBS is June,19th-22nd 9am-11:30a.m. Please contact: Kaileen Weaver if you would like to Volunteer -951-553-5728



Adult
Sunday
School class
has started
and a new
batch of
study will
be held
each week
in the
fellowship

hall at 9:20 a.m between services. All are welcome, we encourage you to attend for learning and discussion on the Word of God with your community. The first topic will be a focused look at Peter, his role and actions in the Gospels.

### **Collecting Pill Bottles**

We are now collecting only amber colored pill bottles with no labels that are **dry and clean of labels** for the Community Free Clinic in Cedar Rapids. Drop them off in the back of the church in the box underneath the table.



Date: June 19th- June 22nd

Age: Preschool-6th grade Time: 9a.m.- 11:30a.m. Where: St. Paul Lutheran 201 N. Ford St. Anamosa

Tell your family, friends and neighbors as All are Welcome to join us for a fun filled, action packed week as we learn how we as Individuals can bring Peace and Build Each Other Up!

This year we are putting on our capes and Calling on our Community Heroes! Come along as kids (called Heroes) experience these stories through music, Bible storytelling, games, arts and crafts, science, and even snacks, they'll learn that Heroes are called to Follow Jesus, Help Others, Work Together and Show Grace! And, best of all, they'll be invited to answer this call at VBS, at church, at home, and every area of their lives. We will begin answering that call to our Community through our VBS Mission this year giving to HACAP for food donations as well as change for Sleep in Heavenly Peace. Each day we will be accepting non perishable food item as well as collecting \$ for these organizations. At the End of the week if we are able to raise \$200 or more I will draw 4 names from our tickets to slime me at our Community Block Party (must be present to redeem) We will put names in the raffle for each item/\$ brought each day. The kids will be showing off their song/ sign skills from the many Awesome songs they will learn during VBS at the start of our Block Party!

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

If you have Any questions please feel free to contact Kaileen Weaver via email: cyfmstpaulanamosa@gmail.com

### **Youth Training Event for grades 8-12**

- Do you know of youth, currently in grades 8-12 who care deeply about others and would benefit from learning real-life relational skills that they can use to help their peers who are going through difficult times?
- This is a 4 day event that will provide both training and opportunities to put relational ■ leadership skills to use. We will be at Camp
- EWALU near Strawberry Point, Iowa, June 19-22,
- learning PML skills, interacting with and leading younger campers, and doing fun camp activities. We will stay overnight at the EWALY Stone Center which provides hotel- style
- accommodations.

### HELP NEEDED

St Paul needs people who are willing to serve our congregation by doing the PowerPoint projection at the Sunday worship service or at the 6:00 pm Wednesday service. This truly is as easy as following along/participating in worship and clicking one button on the computer. The computer is even on and the PowerPoint is ready to go before you come. If you would be willing to help or have any questions, please email or text Barb Kleis at kleis.barb@gmail.com or call at 319-480-1196.

### 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 Brenda Downing (daughter of Pat Merritt), Brenda Biere (daughter-in-law of Karen Biere), and family of Pastor Lavern Beener for his passing. Cards may be sent to Beverly Beener, 300 Claymoor Road, Unit 1C, Hinsdale, ILL 60521. 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 462-4841/stpaulanamosa@gmail.com. Names will be listed for 4 weeks and may be renewed.

> Week June 18th Readings Isaiah 40:1-11 Mark 1:1-4

**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 arraignments (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:**

June: Sandra Andresen July: Sherry Evans

August: Brian/Michelle Lubben

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

June: Myra Powell July: Barb Kleis

August: Ralph & Sandy Andresen

### Wednesday, June 7

\* 8:00 am Men's Worship Group—CE Building

### \* 6:00pm Evening Service

Comm Prep: Ken/Pam Humpal Greeters: Ken/Pam Humpal Readings/Prayers: Barb Kleis Comm Server: Ken Humpal PowerPoint: Myra Powell

### Sunday, June 11 \* 8:00am Service

Comm Prep: Jeff/Kristi Fortune Greeter: Mark/Rhonda Bickford Readings/Prayers: Nancy Lyon Douglas Comm Server: Jeff/Kristi Fortune PowerPoint: Lois Ocenosak

Livestream: Skyler

#### \* 10:30am Service

Comm Prep: Nancy Lyon Douglas Greeter: Jamie/Kinsley Hamblin Readings/Prayers: Kinsley Hamblin

Comm Server: Jamie Hamblin/Nancy Lyon Douglas

PowerPoint: R. Robertson Livestream: S. Goldsmith

#### Tuesday, June 13

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

### Wednesday, June 14

\* 8:00 am Men's Worship Group—CE Building

### \* 6:00pm Evening Service

Greeters: Marlene Serbousek Comm Prep: Paula Sisler Readings & Prayers: Paula Sisler Comm Server: Paula Sisler PowerPoint: Darcie Tenley

#### Sunday, June 18

### \* 8:00 am Service

Comm Prep: Jan Allaire/Verna Lewison

Greeter: Orlyn/Kathy Brunssen Readings & Prayers: Brian Lubben Comm Server: Brian/Michele Lubben

PowerPoint: Grant Lubben Livestream: Skyler

### \* 10:30am Service

Comm Prep: Lori Reynolds Greeter: CJ/Stacie Sullivan

Readings/Prayers: Amy Fuller Belding

Comm Server: Amy Fuller Belding/Greta Lundsgaard

PowerPoint: Addie Dales Livestream: Ingrid Vaughn

#### Tuesday, June 20

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

### Wednesday, June 21

\* 8:00 am Men's Worship Group—CE Building

#### \* 6:00pm Evening Service

Comm Prep: Ken/Pam Humpal Greeters: Ken/Pam Humpal Readings/Prayers: Darla Algoe Comm Server: Ken Humpal 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

June 12	6:00 p.m. All Leadership Mtg and Council Mtg
June 14	Flag Day
June 18	Father's Day (Root Beer Floats!!)
June 19-22	Vacation Bible School (9-11:30 am)
June 23	VBS youth sing at Block Party 5-5:30 p.m.
June 23	Block Party 5:00-8:00 pm
June 25	Outdoor Service at the Park in Anamosa begins
July 16	Annual Meeting, following second service