



# ST. PAUL

## LUTHERAN CHURCH

ANAMOSA, IOWA

CREATIVELY CONNECT • INTENTIONALLY GROW • JOYFULLY SERVE



**July 2020**

Church: 201 N. Ford St. Anamosa, IA 52205

Mailing/Offices: 103 E. Cedar St. Anamosa, IA 52205

Website: [www.stpaulanamosa.com](http://www.stpaulanamosa.com)

Phone: (319) 462-4841



June 3, five adults were baptized at St. Paul after gathering for study and formation since January. Marshall Fowler (sponsor– Brie Wittenburg); Curtis Weaver (sponsor– Lois Ocnosak; and Naomi, Aydin, and Bruce Weaver (sponsors– Susan Koppenhaver and Vickie Wacker). During the service Kaileen Weaver stepped in to the sponsor role due to Covid-19 spacing guidelines. Congratulations to our newly baptized.



On June 7, 2020 St. Paul welcomes new members: L to R; Addie Dales, Mike Dales, Emma Dales; Kaden, Joshua and Sam VonSprecken (Allison not pictured); Logan Dales and Sally Clapp; and Ed Allaire accompanied by Jan.

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"Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me." -John 12:26

This is just a sample of recent generous gifts shared by members at St. Paul. If you have been a generous giver and your name is not listed, please know, as a community we could never glorify and proclaim the Good News without your faithful stewardship. Your brothers and sisters in Christ thank you! Can you think of someone you would like to acknowledge? Contact the church office and we will add them to our Generous Giving list in the next Pulse.

### Generous Giving We are grateful for:

Barb Wilson's service as Co-Director WD4. Blessings to her as she steps down to other commitments.

all the "Park"ing Lot Service attendants.

for all who gathered on Zoom to tell farewell stories with the Biere's

the generous donations during the Covid-19 "storm".

Marge Bohlken & Julie Fall who have been coordinating the Prayer Chain. (see pg 8)

(e-mail Lois if you have seen Creative ways congregants have connected who need a word of gratitude.) stpaulanamosa@gmail.com

## Sunday's in the "Park" -ing Lot

### 10:00 A.M. Service

### East side of Education Building

*Bring: a lawn chair*

*Desire to worship together*

*Weather Related Cancellations will  
be sent in e-blast by 9:00 a.m.*

### Pray for Our Military

Please pray for our men and women currently serving in the military:

- Jeremy Fall
- Allen Gilbert
- Kalib Seeley



Please call the church office if you would like to be added or deleted from this list.

## Lutheran World Relief Issues Facemask Challenge

Join the 75,000 Face Mask Challenge! COVID-19 is threatening vulnerable communities, and Lutheran World Relief urgently needs cloth face masks to send to them. The cloth mask you sew in your living room will provide love and protection to a neighbor in need halfway around the world.



For more information go to <https://lwr.org/masks>

### Make sure you scroll down to see: Frequently asked questions

- When's the deadline?
- Where and when will the masks be distributed?
- What materials do I need to make a face mask?
- Where can I find resources to make cotton face masks?
- I used a different pattern to make masks. Will you accept them?
- How do I get my masks to Lutheran World Relief?
- Will I be able to track where my homemade face masks traveled?
- I am concerned about going to the post office. What should I do?
- How is LWR responding to coronavirus around the world?



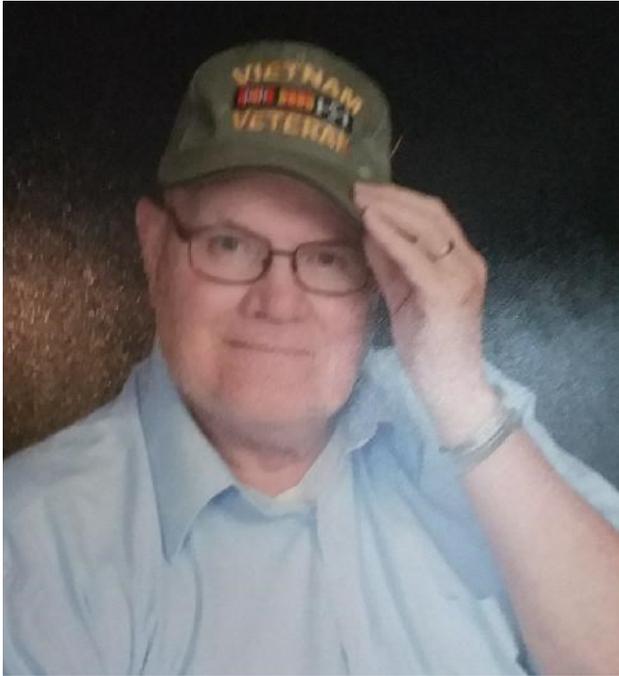


## *Sunday in the "Park" -ing Lot*



There is room for more to attend!

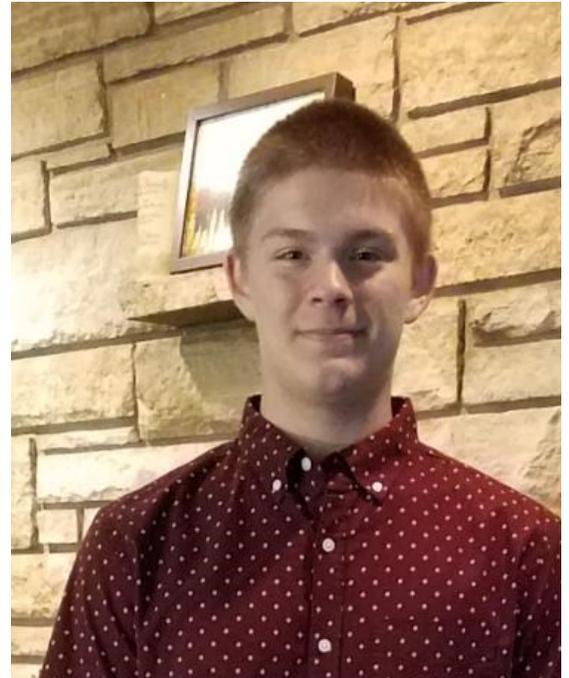
## Parish Council Nominees



### Barry Andersen

I have been a member of St. Paul for about 30 years. I am an old school Lutheran, but enjoy the band music also. I believe I will be able to add an "Outside The Box" perspective to leadership. I have a deep faith in God, our Lord and Savior.

**My name is Logan Dales** and I am now a junior at Anamosa High School. I moved here to be closer to family when my mom became very sick in 2012. I got confirmed at St. Paul with my twin sister Emma, and now regularly attend church. At St. Paul I have helped with VBS, lenten meals, recording worship services, mentoring confirmation students, and now currently waiting for news about the 2020 youth mission trip. I am active in football and track but football is my passion. My family has been very active in the community with the ALY lunch program and Sleep in Heavenly Peace. During my life I have attended many different churches and I feel like the community surrounding St. Paul is very active and welcoming. I am very interested in this opportunity to further help the church and serve God.



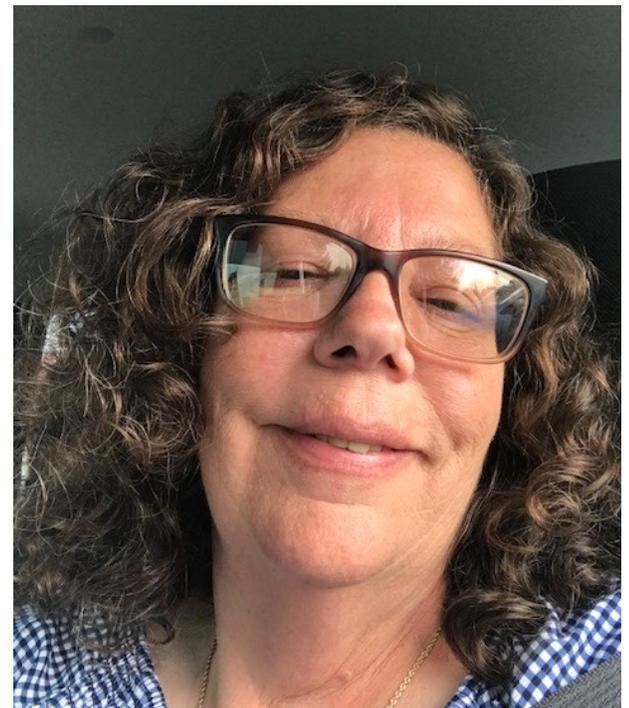
**My name is Jamie Hamblin.** I am honored to be nominated for a leadership council position. I teach English at Anamosa High School. I have been teaching at AHS for eight years. This past fall I started graduate school and I am working towards earning my Masters in English. I am taking online courses through Tarleton State University in Stephenville, Texas. I have a six-year-old daughter, Kinsley. She just completed kindergarten at Strawberry Hill Elementary. In my spare time, I enjoy reading, walking, watching movies, traveling, playing board games, working on home projects (e.g. painting, organizing, yard work), baking with Kinsley, and spending time with family. Kinsley and I joined St. Paul in July of 2019. We attend the 10:30am service. This service is perfect for us because while Kinsley attends the children's service I can focus on the weekly message. I very much enjoy this time to be able to receive the message and reflect without the distraction of hearing "mom" being whispered at me repeatedly :). If I were chosen for leadership council, I imagine my gift of being able to easily connect with others as a way to help me serve our faith community.

**My name is Sean Hollett.** I am 15 years of age and just finished my freshman year at Anamosa High School. I enjoy playing sports, I run cross country, I play baseball, swim team, and my favorite sport is soccer. I was on student council in school as well as show choir this past year, before the pandemic. I was baptized in St. Paul when I was an infant, and recently got confirmed through the church last May. So I've grown up around the church and want to help it in any way. The last question that I think is a very important question is "How do you imagine your charisms/spiritual gifts serving the mission of St. Paul?" Well I've always tried to be a leader to people mostly of my age to show them how to behave in school and other activities and I've always tried to be honest and kind to people. I wanted to apply for the council role in the church to do the same and help be a leader in the church and community.



**My name is Susan Koppenhaver.** I am a daycare provider at Kidz R Us Too in Anamosa. I teach four and five-year-olds. I enjoy hiking, birdwatching, music and history. I've been a lifelong member of St Paul Lutheran Church. Many moons ago I was baptized and confirmed here. In these uncertain times I feel many people across all demographics will be in need of assistance. By serving on the council I feel I can help my church family and my community. I am an advocate for the well-being of children and will work to support them in body, mind and spirit. I believe people of all ages should have opportunity to grow in faith and will work to promote these programs.

I will be participating in this year's Synod Assembly and will bring the fruits of that experience back to our congregation.



## Council Minutes June 9, 2020

**Council Members Present:** Rodney Bluml, Nancy Stout, Stacie Sullivan, Barb Wilson, Angie Thomas, Jason Geltz, Tom Sabotta, Shawn Countryman, Doug Fairbanks **Not Present:** Colin Stiffler

**Approve Agenda/Minutes from May meeting:** Minutes were looked over and Shawn moved to approve them. Angie seconded. Ayes Carry.

**Pastor's Report to Church Council-** see attachment

### Financial Reports:

- The monthly reports were reviewed as submitted. Nancy Lyon Douglas reported that at this time, we are in good shape and able to meet our expenses. A motion to approve the May Financial Reports was made by Stacie and seconded by Shawn. Ayes carry.

### Old Business:

- St. Paul growth timeline and discussion- Listeners' team update- Arlie Willems has compiled the results from the congregation interviews and shared those in the June newsletter. Members of the Listening team will conduct interviews with community leaders during the month of June. The results will be shared with Council next month.
- Town Hall meetings- These will be conducted via Zoom. All members are invited to attend. The dates are June 10 (6:00 PM) and June 14 (8:30 AM). Possible discussion topics: Expectations for getting "back to normal", financial questions, youth council seat, listening team info
- Discussion of audit process- In April of 2019 a motion was made by Council to hire an outside organization to conduct an audit every three years, beginning in June of 2020. It was also determined that St. Paul would conduct an internal audit the other two years. To this date, no internal audit has been conducted for three years. Nancy Lyon Douglas looked into prices for external audits and that will cost thousands of dollars. After much discussion, Nancy Stout recommended that we schedule an internal audit, in lieu of an external, that will be completed by Sept. 1, 2020. Angie made a motion to go forward with this and Doug seconded. Motion carried.

### New Business:

- Reports from committee meetings- Council members met with committees ahead of time and shared reports from those meetings.
- Review of the meeting with the Financial Director- In keeping with best practices, St. Paul is investigating the employ of an outside accounting agency to handle the bookkeeping in the future. Date gathering at this present time. No formal proposal.
- Committee nominees:
  - 1) Audit committee- Darrel Geltz's term is over. A new nominee will need to be elected. Action item: Doug will contact possible nominees.
  - 2) Nominating committee members- The current system works, but could be handled in a better way. Action item: In the fall, discuss having an affirmation committee in lieu of a nominating committee.
  - 3) Memorial committee- Mary Achenbach's first term is up. She will begin the first year of her second term in July.
- Plans for staff returning to original office hours- Office staff have resumed their normal office hours beginning the week of June 9.

- The Council thanked Stacie and Colin for their years of service on Council. They have provided great insight and leadership, especially in the areas of grounds and maintenance and finance.

## **Communications (Requests/Responses)**

### **Agenda for Next Meeting**

**Upcoming Conferences/Meetings/Schedules/Coming Events:** VBS- June 29-July 2, Annual meeting - July 12 after outdoor worship w/rain date July 19

**Time and Date of Next Meeting:** Council retreat- July 19

**Adjourn/Closing Prayer-** Motion to adjourn by Jason. Stacie seconded. Meeting concluded at 8:00pm

Respectfully submitted by Barb Wilson

## **Pastor's Report to Church Council June 2020**

1. Funeral: Joyce Stutt
2. New Members: Sally Clapp, Mike, Logan, Emma, Addie Dales, Ed Allaire, Josh, Allison, Kaden, Sam Von Sprecken
3. Baptism: Marshall Fowler, Aydin, Naomi, Bruce, and Curtis Weaver
4. Wedding: May 23, Ian Bakewell and Chelsea Jones (non-members). Began preparation with Emily Christianson and Michael Hannes.
5. The confirmation candidates are turning in their faith statements in anticipation of celebrating their affirmation of baptism on June 28 at the outdoor service. A contingency plan for inclement weather is being discussed.
6. We have held semi-weekly Zoom Room Drop Ins for people from St. Paul to just say hello and ask questions. Over two dozen households zoomed together on Saturday, May 30, to tell stories and bid Karen and Hank Biere farewell. They have already moved to Cedar Falls but desire to remain members.
7. In an effort to stay in contact with our non-techy members, bulletins are being mailed and posted on our Facebook page and website, weekly. Thanks Lois and helpers.
8. A 30-minute outdoor worship opportunity was held at 10:00 a.m. on the east side of the Ed. Building on June 7. Future services will be: June 14 led by Laura Secrist, June 21 led by Jerry Collell, and June 28 led by Rodney Bluml.
9. The Mississippi Valley Blood Center has reserved our Fellowship Hall on July 7 for a short blood drive.
10. The Youth Mission Trip has been cancelled for 2020. \$800 was refunded from Youth Works, \$800 is held in credit towards a future trip, \$800 was forfeited. The changing high school sports calendar and uncertainty of youth civic events sealed this decision. Barb W., Kaileen, and PRodney hope to schedule some outreach and social events for the youth that same week, July 26-31.
11. Thanks to Sean Hollett who selflessly makes himself available weekly to help record our worship services.
12. I have been participating in an on-line version of a First Call Theological Education retreat. We were welcomed to participate for free in the Festival of Homiletics sponsored by Luther Seminary. We then have met three times with colleagues in the synod and discussed: "What is the Gospel?" "What makes a worthwhile sermon?" and "The Benefits of Communal Discernment for Decision Making." I found the topics and discussions affirming of our efforts at St. Paul to raise up leaders through discernment. I will present some of the other material to the new Council for consideration.
13. I am now a member of the Free Indeed Outside Council for the synod. We are clarifying the roles and responsibilities within the relationship between The Anamosa State Penitentiary {ASP} and the

Southeast Iowa Synod, and the ELCA. We welcome Pastor Dirk Stadlander [pastor@freeindeedanamosa.org](mailto:pastor@freeindeedanamosa.org) to this ministry at ASP. We look forward to the time when outside volunteers can again join the men for worship and study.

14. An upgraded Zoom account has been established on the church balcony computer for church related large group gatherings, like Town Hall meetings or Annual Meeting. It costs \$16.00 a month and can be cancelled at any time.

15. I will be out of the office June 15-18 and June 22-noon 24. Pastor Jerry Collell will lead worship for recording on June 16 and outdoors June 21. We will record the Sunday June 28 service on Wednesday June 24 after I return.

16. Last month I had a fun and unique opportunity to participate in a podcast with a colleague, Jerry Bertelson. I met Jerry when he was pastoring the Northern Baptist Church in Marion. He now pastors a hybrid Methodist/Presbyterian Faith Community in South Dakota. I enjoyed the theological dialogue. If you want to check it out, click on the link below.

**Table Talk with Jerry** Episode #4 - A Conversation With Rev. Rodney Bluml  
MAY 18, 2020 JERRY BERTELSON

[https://www.buzzsprout.com/1025266/3816368?  
fbclid=IwAR0t92Et2109W/WaPsSDGXQ5nHeg9aKPWILx1nm2dXnzNQ2Bmzqgwtkh74K-o](https://www.buzzsprout.com/1025266/3816368?fbclid=IwAR0t92Et2109W/WaPsSDGXQ5nHeg9aKPWILx1nm2dXnzNQ2Bmzqgwtkh74K-o)

**Thank You to Marge Bohlken and Julie Fall in your many years of coordinating the prayer chain. We have appreciated your coordinating efforts to this spiritual need in our community. Both women are retired from this duty. We are looking for volunteer/s to take over this project. Some of the skills needed:**

**Confidentiality**

**Ability to e-mail**

**Ability to text**

**Ability to listen compassionately**

**Ability to consolidate prayer request**

**If you would like to help with this ministry please contact Lois ([stpaulanamosa@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulanamosa@gmail.com)) or (319) 462-4841. Please leave a message if I do not answer. Thank You.**

All are invited to join us for the Saint Paul



at the CE Building Parking Lot  
 Immediately following 10:00 A.M. service.  
 (Rain date: Sunday, July 19<sup>th</sup>)  
 Bring your lawn chairs please.

## New Testament Books

P	M	S	N	A	I	T	A	L	A	G	K	L	I
C	J	N	S	N	A	I	S	E	H	P	E	S	N
A	S	M	N	S	G	S	A	L	W	S	W	U	T
E	C	A	U	W	S	N	O	M	E	L	I	H	P
S	E	T	S	N	A	I	S	S	O	L	O	C	E
M	I	T	S	T	T	S	N	A	M	O	R	U	S
T	M	R	N	E	O	T	I	M	O	T	H	Y	O
H	M	J	A	M	E	S	H	E	B	R	E	W	S
L	T	E	M	A	R	K	M	P	A	S	A	S	P
A	W	N	K	H	N	O	A	E	T	O	I	N	A
S	E	W	P	U	N	H	L	T	L	C	P	S	M
T	D	I	U	S	L	C	I	E	I	S	I	A	E
O	U	U	R	A	A	E	G	R	A	N	O	G	E
W	J	N	H	O	J	O	M	A	T	T	H	E	W

JOHN  
 JUDE  
 TIMOTHY  
 ACTS  
 JAMES  
 LUKE  
 PHILEMON  
 EPHESIANS  
 TITUS  
 PETER  
 GALATIANS  
 HEBREWS  
 COLOSSIANS  
 ROMANS  
 MARK  
 MATTHEW

## Possible Upcoming Events to calendar

June 21, 28: July 5, 12, 19, & 26 - 10:00 A.M. Parking Lot Service  
(Good Weather Only)

June 29-July 2      Vacation Bible School

July 12              Annual Meeting

August 30          All Parish Worship (Central Park) 10:00 AM

In keeping with the COVID-19 recommendations for social distancing, all group activities at St. Paul Lutheran are cancelled until further notice.

This is summer time and we delight in God's creation.

- We are still called to pray with and study God's Word.
- We are encouraged to call each other and check in.
- We are asked to continue to generously share financial benefits with the church and through alms.
- We are invited to reflect on those addictions in our lives that are being transformed by the love of God. This indeed is a time of change and much of it can be positive.

The ELCA Churchwide staff are working on resources for At-Home Worship during the season of Pentecost. We will make these available as soon as we can.

In the meantime, a weekly message and simple liturgy is posted on the St. Paul website under Media/Resources. Through the month of June and into the month of July, we will be offering Sunday's in the "Park"ing Lot at 10:00 A.M. on the east side of the education building. In addition, Pastor Rodney is live on Facebook for ten minutes of midday prayer, 12:05-12:15 on Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. The 10:00 am Wednesday and Saturday Drop Ins will continue to happen at this Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2391467917> . **These gatherings help us creatively connect.**

Thanks for being Church during these uncertain times. If you have a personal pastoral need, feel free to call the church office at 462-4841 or Pastor Rodney at (319) 389-6153. Staff has returned to regular hours published in the bulletin. Outside these hours contact them with numbers published below.

Sincerely in Christ,  
The St. Paul Church Council.

St Paul Website: [stpaulanamosa.com](http://stpaulanamosa.com) (bulletin, Pulse and Sermons can be found under the Media Tab)

### Staff Phone Numbers:

Pastor Rodney    (319) 389-6153  
Nancy Douglas    (319) 551-3358  
Kaileen Weaver   (951) 553-5728  
Lois Ocenosak    (319) 721-9893

Please put these numbers in your phone to help identify you when you call. Please leave your name and a message if we cannot answer and we will return your call as soon as possible.

**Balances of St. Paul Bank Accounts as of 4/30/2020**

CHECKING	SAVINGS
<b>General Fund Checking Acct. **</b> Beginning Balance \$72,541.38 Ending Balance \$70,095.99	<b>Budget Reserve Savings Acct.</b> Beginning Balance \$273.76 Ending Balance \$273.76
<b>Land Maint &amp; Repair Checking Acct.</b> Beginning Balance \$15,298.40 Ending Balance \$15,798.40	<b>Land Development Savings Acct.</b> Beginning Balance \$34,155.22 Ending Balance \$35,481.04
<b>Luther League Checking Acct.</b> Beginning Balance \$4,734.94 Ending Balance \$4,734.94	<b>Luther League Savings Acct.</b> Beginning Balance \$858.20 Ending Balance \$858.20
<b>Memorial Trust Checking Account</b> Beginning Balance \$5,835.11 Ending Balance \$6,010.11	<b>Seminary Support Checking Acct.</b> Beginning Balance \$809.05 Ending Balance \$809.05
<b>Memorial Money Market Account</b> Beginning Balance \$15,040.00 Ending Balance \$15,047.66	<b>**Note: General Fund has deposit for Payroll Protection Plan of \$25,291.84 dated 04/30/2020.</b>

**Memorial Committee Report**

Memorial Committee received a memorials for

**Dennis Hansen and Joyce Stutt**

Memorial Committee gratefully appreciates these thoughtful donations.

No memorial funds were distributed this month.



**Did you know.....**  
 there is a Crisis  
 Text Line for those who are in crisis  
 and want to  
 communicate via texting?  
  
 Volunteers are available 24/7  
 Crisis Text Line: Text HOME to  
 741741

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

Return Service Requested



**July Birthdays**

Vic Hamre	7/3	Darrel Geltz	7/11	Jenna Wilson	7/28
Pat Lubben	7/3	Edward Oltmanns	7/11	Marna Gaye Ketelsen	7/28
Donna Jones	7/3	Jim Christianson	7/14	Rosemary Folken	7/29
Mike Bickford	7/3	Lori Reynolds	7/14	Alex Kenny	7/30
June Ulferts	7/4	Patricia Ann Heeren	7/14		
Barb Kleis	7/4	MacKenzie Paulson	7/16		
Tyler Zumbach	7/7	Jim Conley	7/22		
Allie Geltz	7/8	Dustin Paulson	7/24		
Matt Joens	7/8	Jaxsen Tjaden	7/26		
Brian Darrow	7/9	Jodie Ludwig	7/27		

*If your birthday was omitted from this list, we do not have the date in our records! If you would like your birthday listed in our newsletter, please call Lois at 462-4841 or email her at stpaulanamosa@gmail.com and she would be happy to include it.*