



ST. PAUL
LUTHERAN CHURCH
ANAMOSA, IOWA

CREATIVELY CONNECT • INTENTIONALLY GROW • JOYFULLY SERVE



August 2020

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

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

Website: www.stpaulanamosa.com

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Welcome to the Table First Communion

June 24 Connor Paulsen and Arianah Tjaden

June 30 Emma and Joe Gregorich



Welcome to St. Paul

June 24, 2020: The Paulsen's moved to rural Anamosa in August 2019. Connor is entering 4th grade and enjoys farming, sports, and all things outdoors. Harper is entering 1st grade and loves dance, cats, and baking. Dan works at Collins Aerospace and Brooke works at Cornell College.

June 30, 2020: Matt, Kim, Emma and Joe Gregorich have been attending church at St. Paul for the last three years. We welcome them to full membership at St. Paul.

Emma is entering 5th grade, enjoys softball and art classes. Joe is entering 3rd grade, enjoys swimming and legos. Kim is a new Family Nurse Practitioner at UIQuickcare in Iowa City-enjoys reading and volleyball. Matt is a machinist at Weber Metals in Cascade, Ia. He enjoys farming and working on cars.

"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:

- Nancy Lyon Douglas agreeing to head the Prayer Chain.
- Virginia Danielson for providing masks and snack cakes for VBS
- Lori Reynolds for making sure volunteers and children had water & ice each day for VBS
- Greta Vaughn for providing face shields for volunteers at VBS
- Sally Clapp and Addie Dales for helping prepare craft bags for VBS
- Victoria Lansing for donating Science Bottles for VBS
- All of our members that donated their pop-up tent for VBS
- All of the amazing volunteers that made VBS a success!

(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 Wapsi-Ana band shell

10:30 A.M. Service

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 to or deleted from this list.

The Weekly Pulse: Starting the week of August 2nd, with staff approval, I will be publishing a weekly Pulse (a combination of the Pulse and the bulletin). Having one publication will help keep the mailing costs down as we mail to our congregants who have no computers.

When you have something you want published, please call the office or email me at stpaulanamosa@gmail.com. The deadline for the Pulse will be at 9:00 a.m. on each Monday. Late submissions may be published if room, otherwise the articles will appear the following week.

My hope is combining the publications will allow me to provide the most up-to-date information to you as quickly as possible.

Sincerely, Lois Ocenosak



Pastor Rodney Bluml

John 20: 25b-27: But Thomas said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe." ²⁶ A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe."

In the middle of a 40-mile bike ride, I stopped near a convenience store for some refreshment. There were tables set up outside and couple sat down at the one closest to me. The man asked me where I had ridden from. When I told him, he let out a little gasp and whistle. I turned my head to the side and covered my face. He queried "What's wrong?" I said, "Oh, I'm just downwind from you and the breeze carried your aerosol right to me." He chortled. "You concerned about that exaggerated mess started by the _____ party to make the President look bad?" I could feel my gut tighten up and I paused. Slowly I asked, "Do you know anyone who has been in the hospital with Covid or died from it?"

"No" he emphatically replied. "Don't know anyone who's even had it. Did you know hospitals get \$12,000 for every death they can attribute to Covid? Sounds like a good scam to me. And, if they make our kids wear masks, we're not sending 'em to school."

The conversation went on a while longer and we pondered the dilemma schools, churches, engaged couples, graduates, and restaurants are in. I had the clear impression from the couple that they did not warrant it severe enough to require any changes on their part and they certainly weren't giving the scientists any credence. As I rode home, I found myself wondering if this was what it was like for the first disciples to tell people about the resurrection...? They were certainly met with incredulous responses. It was a fantastic story, and few had been directly affected by it or anything like it. Why believe it? Why trust those sharing the experience? Why change their behavior to make room for a new inconvenient truth?

Perhaps you have found yourself in similar kinds of exchanges. The current conversation around the coronavirus frankly leaves my head spinning. I guess, like many things, it won't really be true for some people until it makes its unwelcome presence known and forces a change in life. When that happens, will they have the grace to recognize their place in creation and humbly accept what is being asked of them?

Regardless, leadership at St. Paul has taken this new way of life seriously and we continue to prayerfully make decisions that we hope and believe are for the common good. We remain open to hearing your needs and about ways we can best serve you.

It is difficult to know how to best connect with all of you, but I want to offer authentic and creative ways for you to engage your faith, grow, learn, question, connect.... With that in mind, and at the risk of incurring Zoom burn out, I plan to lead two sections of a study on the book, *The Wisdom Pattern: Order, Disorder, Reorder*, by Richard Rohr, Franciscan Media, 2020. Those who are interested will meet weekly via Zoom for 12 weeks. The first session will be Thursdays, 10-11:30 a.m. Aug. 27, Sept. 3, 10, 17, 24, Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Nov. 5, 12, 19. The second will be Mondays, 2:30-4 p.m. Aug. 31, Sept. 14, 21, 28, Oct. 5 12, 19, 26, Nov. 2, 9, 16, 23. We may break into small groups for discussion from time to time. Acquire the book for yourself then register for the sessions by contacting the office (462-4841) or me via email or text (389-6153) by Aug. 21.

I also will host two topical Zoom sessions. On Sunday, Aug 30, 6-7 p.m., you will be given time to share your response to this statement: "Our Lament: what I have lost during the Covid quarantine." Then, Wednesday Sept. 2, 6-7 p.m., you can share your response to this question: "What are we learning from this time of the Great Covid Pause?" All ages are welcome. Everyone will be given time to speak. If we have a large number of participants, we will break into small zoom groups for our sharing.

Saint Paul Lutheran is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: The Great Covid Pause - What Have We Have Lost & Learned?

Times: Aug. 30 and Sep 2, 2020 06:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2391467917>

Meeting ID: 239 146 7917

One tap mobile

+19292056099,,2391467917# US (New York)

+13017158592,,2391467917# US (Germantown)

Dial by your location +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

We again invite you to join us in Wapsi-Ana Park (near the pool) at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings through the end of Sept., for outdoor worship. Bring a chair, umbrella, water and plan to socially distance as we gather for prayer, song, and Scripture. Together, we will sing out what we have seen and believe!

Shalom, PRodney

VBS 2020 To Mars & Beyond



Above: EP3-20 & Laura Secrist During VBS Opener



Above: Group Jupiter Making Galaxy Bottles for our Science Station

We learned to "Go Beyond" in:
**Faith, Boldness,
Kindness & Hope**



Above: Group Mars Learning a Song with Laura Secrist

We had 47 children registered for VBS & averaged 41 each day!



Above: Ella Vaughn & Andrea Giegerich passing out Snack during VBS



Above: Group Saturn enjoying games with Seth Secrist, Devin Warren & Angie Coyle



Above: Shawna Giegerich teaching group Pluto about Daniel in the Lions

A Great Big Thank you to the many hands that went into making our Outdoor VBS a success:

Mars Leaders- Sally Clapp & Addie Dales
Pluto Leaders- Barb Wilson, Regan Cunningham & Tobi Tapken
Venus Leaders- Brooke Paulsen & Miken Wheeler
Science Leaders- Victoria Lansing & Angie Coyle
Bible Memorization Leaders- Michelle Deskin & Pastor Rodney
Game Leaders- Seth Secrist & Devin Warren
Floaters- Brie Wittenberg & Andrea Giegerich

Saturn Leaders- Angie Coyle & Elijah Secrist
Jupiter Leaders- Greta Vaughn & Ingrid Vaughn
MC/Music Leader- Laura Secrist
Snack Leaders- Lori Reynolds & Ella Vaughn
Bible story Leader- Shawn Giegerich
Registration Leaders- Brooke Paulsen & Libby Atwood
Floaters- Libby Atwood & Garrett LaDue.

Congratulations

to the
Debra Herren Weeks Scholarship Recipients

Congratulations to Cade Folken (left) and Abby Fairbanks (right), recipients of the Debra Herren Weeks Memorial Scholarship.

Scholarships were presented at the June 30th taping of the Sunday Service.

The scholarships were presented by Mary Achenbach and Doris Jean Herren (middle).

Thank you to the Memorial Committee for your prep work and selection discernment.



Pastor Rodney plans to lead two sections of a study on the book, *The Wisdom Pattern: Order, Disorder, Reorder*, by Richard Rohr, Franciscan Media, 2020.

Those who are interested will meet weekly via Zoom for 12 weeks.

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The second will be Mondays, 2:30-4 p.m. Aug. 31, Sept. 14, 21, 28, Oct. 5, 12, 19, 26, Nov. 2, 9, 16, 23.

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Council Minutes July 19, 2020

The meeting was held via Zoom following the Council Retreat. During the retreat, the Council members elected the executive team for 2020-21: President Chair - Nancy Stout, Vice-President - Shawn Countryman; Secretary - Jamie Hamblin. The Council voted to appoint Nancy Lyon Douglas Treasurer. Nancy called the business meeting to order at 12:15 pm.

Council Members Present: Rodney Bluml, Nancy Stout, Susan Koppenhaver, Angie Thomas, Jason Geltz, Tom Sabotta, Shawn Countryman, Doug Fairbanks, Jamie Hamblin, Sean Hollett, Barb Wilson

Old Business:

- **Proposal for change to outside Accounting & Treasurer role-** Nancy shared a proposal to delegate our accounting to an outside firm (Dave Koch from Koch & Lipkea, P.C.). They would be in charge of payroll, checking and savings accounts, and generating checks. Council would receive quarterly financial reports. Nancy Lyon Douglas is appointed by the Council to the unpaid role of Church Treasurer to act as liaison between Koch and the Council (see section 11 of the Congregational Constitution). We will still move forward with an internal audit by Sept. 1st. Tom made a motion to implement this proposal and Shawn C. seconded the motion. Motion approved.

New Business:

- **Review Sexual Ethics handout-** The handout regarding sexual abuse prevention from Church Mutual Insurance was reviewed. We need to do this each year to be sure we have a plan in place. We are currently following some of the guidelines, but need to provide training for those who work with our youth and establish policies and procedures for prevention and response to abuse
Action Item: Pastor will share materials with Kaileen and others; follow up to be sure we are proceeding as necessary.
- **Honorarium-** Nancy proposed that we extend a \$200 honorarium/gift of gratitude to Steve Dornbusch for his commitment to leading music at the outdoor services. Steve has set up necessary equipment and selected and accompanied the songs every week, since we began the outdoor worship. Susan made the motion to accept the proposal and Shawn C. seconded the motion. Motion carried. Jamie will provide a thank you card to Nancy S. who will present it at an upcoming service.

Communications (Requests/Responses):

Agenda for Next Meeting:

- Moving Towards Consensus Decision Making, "In the Case of Ties".
- Revisit policy on Fellowship Hall table rental
- Data from civic interviews
- Revisit progress on sexual ethics plan

Upcoming Conferences/Meetings/Schedules/Coming Events:

Time and Date of Next Meeting: Aug. 10th @ 6:30

Adjourn/Closing Prayer- Pastor led a prayer for leaders. Motion to adjourn by Shawn. Jason seconded. Meeting concluded at 12:35.

Respectfully submitted by Barb Wilson

Balances of St. Paul Bank Accounts as of 06/30/2020:

CHECKING	SAVINGS
General Fund Checking Acct. Beginning Balance \$70,095.99 Ending Balance \$71,792.93	Budget Reserve Savings Acct. Beginning Balance \$273.76 Ending Balance \$273.90
Land Maint. & Repair Checking Acct. Beginning Balance \$15,798.40 Ending Balance \$17,195.20	Land Development Savings Acct. Beginning Balance \$35,481.04 Ending Balance \$35,486.87
Luther League Checking Acct. Beginning Balance \$4,734.94 Ending Balance \$5,518.89	Luther League Savings Acct. Beginning Balance \$858.20 Ending Balance \$858.63
Seminary Support Checking Acct. Beginning Balance \$809.05 Ending Balance \$809.05	
Memorial Trust Checking Account Beginning Balance \$6,010.11 Ending Balance \$6,115.11	
Memorial Money Market Account Beginning Balance \$15,047.66 Ending Balance \$15,053.18	**Note: General Fund has deposit for Payroll Protection Plan of \$25,291.84 dated 04/30/2020.



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

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

Return Service Requested



August Birthdays

Verna Lewison	8/1	Kyle Andresen	8/17	Jeff Fortune	8/29
Barry Anderson	8/6	Neil Stigen	8/19	Lynette Otten	8/30
Olivia Christianson	8/6	Vicki Wacker	8/20	Rhonda Bickford	8/31
Sandra Capron	8/7	Deb Oldham	8/21	Ruth Kray	8/31
Dorothy Wood	8/7	Marlene Prout	8/24	Lucas Sullivan	8/31
Velma Hinrichs	8/8	Brian Lubben	8/25		
Dorothy Postel	8/8	Fred Austin	8/25		
Joyce Christenson	8/10	Janel Martensen	8/25		
Curtis Weaver	8/11	Lynn Rickels	8/25		
Donna Custis	8/12	Wilma Cox	8/25		
Shaun Lambertsen	8/12	Hayley Paulson	8/25		
Shelby Hollett	8/15	Matt Gregorich	8/25		
Shawn Countryman	8/16	Darlene Moncrief	8/27		
Garrett LaDue	8/16	Dennis Hora	8/27		
Summer Parks	8/17	Dave Jacobs	8/28		



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.