



ST. PAUL
LUTHERAN CHURCH
ANAMOSA, IOWA

CREATIVELY CONNECT • INTENTIONALLY GROW • JOYFULLY SERVE



December 2019

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

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

Website: www.stpaulanamosa.com

Phone: (319) 462-4841

St. Paul Christmas Caroling for anyone that wants to go, meet at church Mon., Dec. 16th at 6:30. Please let Marcy Pate or Amy Christianson know if you would like to go to determine if we need to break into groups. There is a sign up in the back of the church.

Also, let us know if you have anyone that you would like us to visit.

Help us bring joy to each others lives and spread it throughout the community singing songs of the season!

Worship helpers will be needed for all three Christmas Eve services. If you would be willing to usher, prepare or serve communion, read scripture or run PowerPoint, please contact Barb Kleis (462-4061 or kleis. barb@gmail.com)

Christmas Eve Services

3:00 pm

5:00 pm

7:30 pm



Fourteen children, 10 adults and 12 residents enjoyed some intergenerational time at Pinicon Place frosting cookies. The residents really enjoyed seeing the young people. More photos are displayed on St. Paul Facebook page.

Tree Walk/Cookie Exchange/Poinsettia Orders 2
Pastor's Page 3-4
Advent Trees 4
Children & Family Ministry 5
Information Page 6

Calendar 7
Worship Helpers Schedule 8
Council Minutes 9-10
100th Anniversary Photos 10
December Birthdays 12



Order your Poinsettias!

To help decorate the church for Christmas, orders for poinsettias will again be taken as has been done in the past. This year, however, white poinsettias will be ordered to complement the blue and white decorations planned for the sanctuary.

Poinsettias are \$15 and will be ordered and delivered to the church for you. If you would like to order any poinsettias, you can simply sign the paper in the back of the church and put the money or a check payable to **St. Paul Lutheran Church** in the brown envelope attached to the paper.

If you want a poinsettia in honor or in memory of someone, you can indicate that on the paper, and the names will be noted in the bulletin on Christmas Eve. Deadline for ordering is Sunday, December 15th.

Ken & Allison Winter would like to share their new address with all of us at St. Paul.

Ken & Allison Winter
4319 Royal Oaks Dr
Davenport, IA 52806

"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:

All parish members who continue to generously support the ministries of St Paul through regular giving!

Laura Secrist for sharing her witness talk "Blessed Are They Who Mourn" with the confirmation class.

Carole Stiffler, Kristi Fortune, and Jane Ortgies for preparing the communion bags for the home bound.

Grounds and Maintenance Cmte in particular Fred Austin and Jason Geltz for lighting upgrades in and around the church.

Cookie Exchange

When: Sunday, December 15th

Time: After Each Service

Place: Fellowship Hall

Do you have a cookie or bar that your family makes every year for the Christmas Holiday? Well, here's your chance to bring back grandma's recipes and share them with your brothers & sisters in Christ.

We will be having a Cookie/Baked Good Exchange after the 8:30 and 10:30 service on Sunday, December 15th.

We ask that you bring 2 dozen of whatever baked good you feel like bringing that way everyone gets a chance to take a couple of each item home. If you think "I can't eat that many" Then take your plate by a Nursing Home, Neighbor or Friend but don't let that be the reason you don't come enjoy good fellowship.

We will be having Hot Dogs, Chips and Lemonade after the 10:30 service for anyone who would like to join us.

Please RSVP with Kaileen by calling the office or at the Back of the church on the Sign-up sheet.

Tree Walk- St. Paul Café

December 13-15th are the dates for the 2019 Tree Walk at the Lawrence Community Center.

We will again be opening up the St. Paul Café. Workers will be needed and a sign-up sheet is up on the bulletin board in the back of church.

Please sign up for a shift—everyone has a great time. Please see Deb Hardersen or Nancy Bickford with any questions.





Pastor Rodney Bluml

Romans 13:11-12 ¹¹ Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near.

Turn On. Tune In. Wake Up! In the 1960's people were urged to turn on, tune in, and drop out—to leave the material world behind in favor of an alternate reality. Unfortunately, that wasn't always done in a healthy way. Jesus also urges his followers/us to tune into an alternative to the material world, one he called the coming of the Son of Man. In Jesus' humanity, the dominion of God comes into the world, and the risen Christ continues to give us abundant signs of its presence. Christ commands us not to drop out of the world, but to be on the lookout for God in it.

As Christians, we await the second coming of Christ, the *Parousia*, when we believe we will experience God's reign in its fullness. In the meantime, we live, in the words of some theologians, "already, but not yet." We look for glimpses of God's presence in the here and now. The season of Advent, and the season's readings, are designed to help turn us on to the excitement and anticipation of God's reign in our lives and tune in to the infinite opportunities we have to participate in it, now. In other words, wake up!

Living in the Already but Not Yet: Each day of Advent, after you awaken from sleep, identify where/how God is already present to you and in your life while you wait for "something more." Seek out evidence of God's loving presence in the face of threats, chaos, disasters, fear, oppression, sadness, and longing....

Invitation for action: Pick a day and time each week of Advent when you can focus for 15 minutes. Close your eyes and breathe. Imagine the many spaces you inhabit each day. Unencumber your life, create a space for Christ to be born anew by removing something from your house, work space, car, garage, or locker that is not serving your true self. Give it away! {ex: duplicates of appliances, clothes you haven't worn in a year, books already read, most of your 27 koozies, a set of dishes, unridden bikes, all but three coffee mugs, fishing poles...} Feel the loss, breathe in the new space, be grateful.

I know, we are so busy we covet our sleep time, but in an effort to **wake up** to Holy Spirit's rhythm in your life, commit your household to attend one worship service each week of Advent through Christmas. Notice what blessings come to you through relationships and encounters and God's Word. The gift at Christmas might be realizing that God is already present in your life and has so much more in store for you from this community of faith!

Not everyone looks forward to the holiday season. Some in our midst are grieving recent losses, others are carrying deep wounds from past hurts or mourning broken relationships, and still others are separated from loved ones by time or miles. We are called by Holy Spirit to gather as a faith community in prayerful support of each other, to pray for those unable to pray, and to be a loving presence when the world seems cold. On Tuesdays, Dec. 3 & 10, the **Grief Share** Group held at St. Paul Lutheran invites you to join them in the lower level of the education building from 6-7:30 p.m. for two intentional conversations: "Loss of a Spouse" and "Surviving the Holidays" leading up to a "**Blue Christmas**" healing service in the church at 6:00 p.m. on Tues., Dec. 17. All are welcome. Through a series of reflective readings, songs, candle lightings, and prayers of intention, we will be reminded of God's incarnational love and healing power. This Blue Christmas service is an opportunity to show up for others who may need "God with skin on" during this time of darkness. Perhaps this will be your greatest gift to someone this year. You may be surprised to find that you have unresolved grief in your own life that is holding you back from enjoying the fullness God desires for you.

Sometimes, we realize that our unencumbering needs to take place in our hearts. On Mondays, Dec. 23 & 30, I will be in the side chapel from 3-5:30 p.m. for individual confession. A prayer guide will be available. "Individual Confession and Forgiveness is a ministry of the church through which a person may confess sin and receive the assurance of God's forgiveness. There is a confidential nature to this order, in keeping with the discipline and practice of the Lutheran Church" {ELW, 607}. Typically, it lasts 7-15 minutes. Order for individual confession: You are welcome to take a few minutes in a pew near the entrance to pray and reflect on those sins that trouble you and keep you from loving well. If the chapel door is ajar, feel free to come in. (continued next page)

- 1) Greeting
- 2) Before confessing, you may say this or something similar in your own words: Merciful God, I confess that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed, by what I have done and what I have left undone.
- 3) You may speak truthfully about your sin in this safe and confidential place.
- 4) After confessing, you may ask for forgiveness in your own words or use these: Loving God, I repent of all my sins, especially these known to me. I am truly sorry, and I pray for forgiveness. I firmly intend to change my behavior in order to avoid this sin, and I ask for your help and guidance in doing so. I ask for strength to turn from sin and to serve you in newness of life. Amen.
- 5) Pastor -- Cling to this promise: the word of forgiveness I speak comes to you comes from God.... Amen.

6) Sharing of Peace and Going Forth

We **Tune In** each Tuesday at St. Paul Lutheran by engaging in a variety of prayer modalities i.e. Taizé, Drumming for Healing, Meditation, Visio Divina, Singing Bowls, Anointing and study of the upcoming Sunday readings. We were holding these sessions in the evening in the hopes of catching some working folks but that hasn't been the case so in the new year we are changing the times to the afternoon. Beginning January 7, Tuesday Prayer will be held from 1:30-2:30 p.m. and then Rubber & the Road Lectionary Study will be from 2:30-4:00 p.m. Both will be in the chapel. I look forward to being fully awake and tuned in with you at our Christmas services Dec. 24.

Shalom, Pstr Rodney

Creatively Connect with those in Need

St. Paul Advent Tree Walk: Please take a walk through the 2019 Advent Tree walk in the sanctuary gathering area during Advent. You'll find our traditional Giving Tree, A Food Bank Tree, and the ELCA Good Gifts Tree.



The Giving Tree is hung with the wishes and needs of those living around us who may not be able to have those wishes and needs met this season without the loving hands of someone at St. Paul. Please take a tag, record your name, and enjoy the shopping and giving. Gifts will need to be brought to church by Sun., Dec. 15. Contact Pam Humpal (462-3219) or Myra Powell (462-2015) if you have questions.

The Food Bank Tree is decorated with suggested food items needed to fill the shelves at the Jones County Community Food Bank. Take an ornament to remind you—or just bring your donations during Advent. Volunteers will deliver the items to the food bank. Kristi Fortune (462-2431) will answer any questions you have.



The Good Gifts Tree holds suggestions for donations through the ELCA in honor or in memory of someone special to a gift-giver. Does she want a pig? Would he like some young chicks? Or do they need a whole farm? Catalogs are available if you don't see what you want to "buy." Take an ornament and gift card to give to your person. You can put your donation in the envelopes provided near the tree, and drop it in the offering plate. If you have questions, please see Virginia Danielson (462-4625).

* * * * *

WATCH FOR THE M.U.S.H. TREE at the Tree Walk the weekend of December 13, 14 & 15 at the Lawrence Community Center. Sisters Ecumenical Bible study group volunteers to set up the display that encourages Tree Walk visitors to donate needed items for area children. What is a **M.U.S.H.** tree? It is a space to hang your gifts of **M**ittens, **U**nderwear, **S**ox, and **H**ats.

Children, Youth & Family Ministries

Wow, what an amazing time we have been having with our young people on Wednesday nights! We have been averaging 70-75 young people during our WD4 program this year. Our Pre-K-4th graders have been learning Bible stories from the Spark curriculum. These stories follow the lectionary as we do each week in church. We have also been focusing on learning the books of the Bible and a few fun song's for the kid's to have in their thoughts as they go throughout their day. Starting November 13th we will be practicing a few song's for our Christmas program on Wednesday, December 18th. We will spend part of WD4 time focusing on Bible lessons, and the other part preparing for the program. The program this year will include our Pre-K-5th graders. The middle and high school students will be helping out with the scenery as well as the decorations for Jesus Birthday Party after the Christmas Program.



Left: This year some of our H.S. students volunteered to decorate and host a trunk for our Trunk or Treat.

Right: Some of our other youth helped with the games that we had set-up .

Thank you to All who came and helped with Trunk or Treat! Those that hosted trunks, help set-up, run games, clean-up and those willing to step in and help where needed. It takes a village to make these Community Events run smoothly



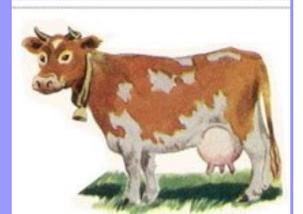
so thank you from the St. Paul Staff ! Because of you we had over 300 people participate and were able to serve over 240 hot dogs and had over 19 trunks hosted by different Community Organizations, businesses and Several of our members.



Sharing the "Light" Of Christ....This past month we carried on St. Paul's tradition of handing out Bibles to our 3rd/4th graders at our Wednesday, October 30th service as well as Sunday, November 3rd at our 10:30 service. We were blessed to be able to hand out 13 Bibles this year.



Please join the children and youth from St. Paul for our Christmas Program



THE FRIENDLY BEASTS

Wednesday, December 18th

Families, please join us for Wednesday Worship service at 6:00pm in the church. The children will present their program directly following the service by 7 p.m. Following the presentation, all are welcome to join us in the fellowship hall to celebrate Jesus' Birthday with cake and punch!

Save the date. . . Woman's Craft Day. . . More details to come, but looking to do some baking, crafting, and women fellowship time on Saturday, December 7th from 2 to 6. More details to follow later.

Are you an Inquirer, seeking more information about faith, who Jesus the Christ was and is, sacraments, religion, spirituality, Lutheran Christianity, or what being a member of the St. Paul community means?

If so, good news! We will be offering Inquiry sessions on Sunday mornings, 9:45-10:15 in the lower level of the Education Center (across the street from the church). In each session we will look at a topic lifted out of the Scriptures for that day and then move to discussing questions you bring.

Facilitated by a team of St. Paul companions, we welcome all who desire to grow in the spiritual life. Consider committing to a series of discussions so you can form some relationships as well: **Nov. 17-Jan. 12.** You are welcome to participate as long as you desire because the topics are non-repeating. Call me at 389-6153 if you have any questions.

Shalom, PRodney

PS This does not replace Fellowship in the hall.

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



Tuesdays from 6:00-7:30PM ALL ARE WELCOME!
Christian Education Building - Lower Level
 (Enter from gravel parking lot, first door on left.)

Seasonal Session Topics:

- December 3rd - The loss of a spouse.
- December 10th - Surviving the Holidays
- December 17th - Blue Christmas (in the church)
- December 24 - No meeting.
- December 31 - No meeting.

Nancy Lyon Douglas
 Questions? Call 319-462-4841

Tuesday Evenings
Prayer
5:30pm **MINISTRY**

Dec. 3 Drumming for Healing
 Dec 10 Taize Style
 Dec. 17 Blue Christmas **(Time change: 6:00 pm)**
 Dec. 24 & 31 No Evening Prayer

Dec. Bread Baker
 Paula Sisler

Dec. Food Bank Rotation
 Barb Kleis

Christmas Eve
Services Bakers
 Michele & Brian Lubben

Helpers for Worship
Services are located on the
back of the calendar.

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.

2019 DECEMBER

Abbreviations Used
 G&G Grounds & Goodies
 LL CE Lower Level Christian Education bldg
 UL CE Upper Level Christian Education bldg
 FH Fellowship Hall (lower level church)
 R&R Rubber & the Road Scripture Study
 WP Woodlawn Park

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 8:30am Worship 9:30am Coffee Hour 9:45am Inquiry Classes 10:30am Worship 1:00pm Reduced to Joy Study LL CE	2 9:30am Woodland Service All are Welcome	3 12pm Sisters G&G 5:30pm Prayer Church 6:00pm Grief Support LL CE 6:30pm R & R Library 8:00pm AA LL CE	4 7:00am Good Guys Bible Study McOtto 8:00am Lutheran Men in Mission LL CE 6:00pm Wed. Worship 6:00pm WD4	5	6	7 2-6pm Ladies Craft Day FH
8 8:30am Worship 9:30am Coffee Hour 9:45am Inquiry Classes 10:30am Worship 1:00pm Reduced to Joy Study LL CE 4:00pm Confirmation Class 5:45pm Men's Craft Night	9 6:00pm All Leader Mtg FH 8:00pm Council Meeting FH	10 2:00pm Sister's LL CE 5:30pm Prayer Church 6:00pm Grief Support LL CE 6:30pm R & R Library 7:00pm Mary Circle FH 8:00pm AA LL CE	11 7:00am Good Guys Bible Study McOtto 8:00am Lutheran Men in Mission LL CE 1:30 Sarah Circle FH 6:00pm Wed. Worship 6:00pm WD4	12 10am Friend to Friend FH	13 Pulse Deadline Tree Walk Dec 13, 14, & 15	14
15 Eucharistic Ministry Cookie Exchange 8:30am Worship 9:30am Coffee Hour 9:45am Inquiry Classes 10:30am Worship 1:00pm Reduced to Joy Study LL CE	16 6:30 pm Caroling	17 2:00pm Sister's LL CE 6:00pm Blue Christmas Service 6:30pm R & R Library 8:00pm AA LL CE	18 Pulse Publish Date 7:00am Good Guys Bible Study McOtto 8:00am Lutheran Men in Mission LL CE 6:00pm Wed. Worship 6:00pm WD4 practice 7pm WD4 Christmas Program	19 3:30pm Pinicon Communion Service All are Welcome.	20	21
22 8:30am Worship 9:30am Coffee Hour 9:45am Inquiry Classes 10:30am Worship 1:00pm Reduced to Joy Study LL CE	23 3:00-5:30pm Individual Confession In small chapel	24 Christmas Eve Services 3:00 pm 5:00 pm 7:30 pm Office Closed No other activities this day	25 Christmas Day Office Closed No other activities this day	26	27	28
29 8:30am Worship 9:30am Coffee Hour 9:45am Inquiry Classes 10:30am Worship 1:00pm Reduced to Joy Study LL CE	30 3:00-5:30pm Individual Confession In small chapel	31 New Year's Eve Office Closed No other activities this day	New Year's Day Office Closed No other activities this day			

Joyfully Serve

Wednesday Service 6:00 pm

	Usher/Greeter	Reader	Communion Prep	Comm. Server	Powerpoint
Dec. 4 th	WD4 Students	WD4 Students	Dorothy Wood	WD4 Students	WD4 Students
Dec. 11 th	Ken/Pam Humpal	Beth Hora	Ken/Pam Humpal	Marge Bohlken Beth Hora	Beth Hora
Dec. 18 th	Darla Algoe	Darla Algoe	Marlene Serbousek	Summer Parks, Darcie Tenley	Myra Powell
Dec. 25 th	NO SERVICE	NO SERVICE	NO SERVICE	NO SERVICE	NO SERVICE

8:30 Service

	GREETERS/ USHERS	READER	COMMUNION PREP	COMMUNION SERVERS
Dec. 1 st	Don/Debbie Hardersen	Jane Ortgies	Dee Ihlenfeldt	Dave/Jane Ortgies Dee Ihlenfeldt
Dec. 8 th	Lance/Michelle Toenjes	Virginia Danielson	Virginia Danielson	Virginia Danielson, Jeff & Kristi Fortune
Dec. 15 th	Colin Stiffler, Jay Willems	Colin Stiffler	Don/Dorothy Harmon	Brian/Michele Lubben, Carol Stiffler
Dec. 22 nd	Dale/Pat Jensen	Pat Jensen	Dee Ihlenfeldt & Virginia Danielson	Wilma Anderson, Dee I, & Virginia D.
Dec. 29 th	Sheri Evans/Tom Sabotta	Sherri Evans or Tom Sabotta	Jan Allaire, Karen Biere	Conor Fortune, Brian/ Michele Lubben

Dec. 1 **PowerPoint** Conor Fortune **Video** Linda Kenney; Dec. 8 **PowerPoint** Lois Ocenosak **Video** Linda Kenney
 Dec. 15 **PowerPoint** Grant Lubben **Video** Grace Lubben; Dec. 22 **PowerPoint** Conor Fortune **Video** Linda Kenney
 Dec. 29 **PowerPoint** Grant Lubben **Video** Grace Lubben

10:30 Service

	Ushers	Reader	Comm. Prep	Comm. Server
Dec. 1 st	Shawn Lambertsen family	Shawn or Valerie Lambertsen	Barb Wilson	Nancy Lyon Douglas, Ben Coyle, Angie Thomas
Dec. 8 th	CJ Sullivan Family	Polly Chalstrom	Dan/Lynn Rickels	Dan/Lynn Rickels, Staci Sullivan
Dec. 15 th	Dan/Marilyn Lambertsen	Dan or Marilyn Lambertsen	Amy Christianson	Sally Clapp Addie Dales Amy Christianson
Dec. 22 nd	Rob Robertson family	Kristy Robertson	Jeff/Barb Switzer	Paula Sisler, Gary/Carlene Vavricek
Dec. 29 th	Shawn Countryman family	Kathy Dornbusch	DJ/Donna Condry	DJ/Donna Condry, Kathy Dornbusch

Dec. 1 **PowerPoint** Dean Lambertsen **Video** Ivan Lambertsen; Dec. 8 **PowerPoint** Ruby Robertson **Video** Sebastian Goldsmith
 Dec. 15 **PowerPoint** Emma Dales **Video** Logan Dales; Dec. 22 **PowerPoint** Victor Chalstrom **Video** Sean Hollett
 Dec. 29th **PowerPoint** Seth Countryman **Video** Seth Secrist Substitute—Seth Secrist

Council Minutes November 11, 2019

Welcome/Check-in – Call to order after prayer @ 6:38pm with sharing of good news.

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

Non-Council attendee: Michele Countryman (Executive Secretary)

Approve Agenda/Minutes from October meeting: Approve minutes from October – Shawn Countryman motion and Angie Thomas second to approve. Ayes carry.

Pastor's Report to Church Council: See attachment for summary. Good portion of the month was identifying better procedures for funeral services. This revamp involved both the funeral and meal. A final plan will be shared with Goettsch Funeral home to adjust their itemized bill for non-member services. The meals and food provided as part of funeral services will no longer use disposable dishes. This will mean additional education is necessary for those in the kitchen to ensure proper food preparation and clean up.

Financial Reports: It was noted there will be an insurance refund based on the parish nurse departure. It was noted the budget reports generated by the new budget software are hard to understand. **Action Item:** Doug and Stacie will follow up with Nancy to see if a more detailed monthly expense/financial activity report could be provided. Stacie Sullivan motion to approve the finance report and Colin Stifler second. Ayes carry

Old Business:

- **Continued discussion on Program Church model** – looking at last goal to develop spiritual generosity to grow the church. Members agreed this goal is still important. A recommendation was made to consider developing a five-year plan so the council can be transparent with the membership on how to achieve growth at St. Paul.
- **Sound System** – All paid for now but a few glitches that Laura is checking on.
- **Parsonage** – The parsonage has been cleaned up and may be ready for a short-term renter until a long-term decision can be made on what to do with the space.
- **Time and Talent survey**- A simplified version of the time and talent survey will be distributed the two Sundays before Thanksgiving and at WD4 to both adult and youth membership. Doug Fairbanks motioned to distribute the simplified Time and Talent survey beginning November 17. **Action Item:** Finalize survey and distribute to adult and youth members. Barb Wilson second. Ayes carry.
- **Young Moms' Coffee Request** nothing received yet. This will be removed from future agendas until a formal proposal is received by Nancy.
- **Nativity set / Worship team's plan for new Christmas decorations** – looking for new outdoor nativity scene decorations for use in 2020. Will use white poinsettias this year and a non- traditional advent wreath.
- **Landscaping** – is completed for fall. Thanks to those that helped with the projects.
- **Council liaison to food bank and outreach ministries** – nothing new to report. Kristi Fortune has agreed to do a giving tree. Details will be forthcoming
- **Disability ministry team report** – conference calls complete. Nancy is working with Arlie to complete the paperwork.

New Business:

Environmentally Friendly Efforts – on board with becoming environmentally friendly in the kitchen. Nancy followed up with Linn County Health Dept. Three sinks are required, the first for washing, rinsing, and then sanitizing in a 120 degrees bleach/water solution. Surfaces need to be wiped with bleach solution. Need tubs for ice for salads. Will also need to purchase a thermometer. Will need to work with the kitchen coordinator to order those items. New procedures will be posted so anyone working in the kitchen is aware of the requirements.

Bryce Ricklefs and Matt McQuillen – Discussion with Matt McQuillen and Bryce Ricklefs regarding further developing downtown Anamosa. The city is doing a downtown study next week to try to develop downtown with the hope of acquiring state money. Program leaders are coming to Anamosa to make recommendations on grants the city can pursue. Governor

Reynolds has a lot of rural Iowa initiatives via catalyst grants or small-town economic development resources. Matt believes the city is becoming more aware of these opportunities. They would like to explore growth opportunities with the lumberyard. The council needs to evaluate the feasibility of expanding in current or new space before making a final decision on how to respond to Bryce and Matt's query. Would like to appoint an ad hoc committee to gather more feasibility data. **Action Item:** Gather preliminary information on St Paul growth possibilities. Jason, Doug, and Nancy volunteered to be part of this sub-committee to explore possibilities and figures. Ideally, the council discussed creating long range options to keep pushing forward with whatever direction the membership elects to pursue. Whatever decision, the council agreed they need to be transparent and reflective of the fact this is what leadership does. Doug will write the guests a note to thank them for their time.

Communications (Requests/Responses): Lois has requested a different bookcase as it is now bowing. Would like a tall one beside copy machine made of wood so shelves don't sag. **Action Item:** Colin will follow up with Lois to discuss further.

Upcoming Conferences/Meetings/Schedules/Coming Events: None at this time.

Time and Date of Next Meeting: Dec. 10th @ 6:00 following the All-leadership meeting

Adjourn/Closing Prayer – Adjourn @ 8:38 by Colin, second by Jason. Ayes Carry

Memorial Committee Report

Since the beginning of our fiscal year on July 1, 2019, Memorial Committee has received memorials for:

Verlyn Stolte
Eloise Ricklefs
Helen Theilen School
Betty Lester
Lucille Zimmerman
Lois Terrell
Ena-Faye Bennett
Betty Zumbach
Elnora Day

We are most thankful for these gifts which have provided funds for

- * **New landscaping around the church and parsonage**
- * **New sound equipment**
- * **New surge protector**
- * **New Christmas decorations**

Community Christmas Concert



Sun., Dec. 22nd

Concert at 3:00 p.m.

Hosted by the
United Methodist Church,
201 S Ford Street, Anamosa

While you are gathering for the holidays and you drag out your pictures to tell a few stories please look for the St. Paul Family photos to share with us for our upcoming 100th Anniversary. We are specifically looking for **events that happened at St. Paul;** Weddings, Baptisms, Anniversaries, Birthdays, Sunday School Programs, Confirmation Events. Any questions please call Jan Allaire at 462-4223 and leave a message if necessary.

Balances of St. Paul Bank Accounts as of 10/312019:

CHECKING	SAVINGS
General Fund Checking Acct. Beginning Balance \$21,435.28 Ending Balance \$27,348.44	Budget Reserve Savings Acct. Beginning Balance \$273.48 Ending Balance \$273.48
Land Maint & Repair Checking Acct. Beginning Balance \$9,174.26 Ending Balance \$10,434.26	Land Purchase Development Savings Acct. Beginning Balance \$27,198.19 Ending Balance \$28,643.04
Luther League Checking Acct. Beginning Balance \$2,404.12 Ending Balance \$2,154.12	Luther League Savings Acct. Beginning Balance \$642.40 Ending Balance \$792.40
Seminary Support Checking Acct. Beginning Balance \$809.05 Ending Balance \$809.05	Memorial Trust Checking Account Beginning Balance \$21,405.90 Ending Balance \$18,258.79

ST PAUL DIRECTORY

Staff

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 blumlwa@gmail.com

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Kaileen Weaver (319) 462-4841
 (951) 553-5728 (C)

Financial Coordinator:

Nancy Lyon Douglas (319) 462-4841
 njldouglas@hotmail.com

Children's and Youth Coordinator:

Barb Wilson (319) 480-6031
 CYFMStPaulAnamosa@gmail.com

Children's Church: Linda Kenny

(319) 350-3323 lindabr@aol.com

Church Council:

Council President:

Nancy Stout (319) 462-4055 (H)
 (319) 480-1336 (C)

Vice President:

Shawn Countryman (319) 213-8444

Council Secretary:

Barb Wilson (319) 462-2989

Council Treasurer:

Doug Fairbanks (319) 480-2484

Church Council members:

Colin Stiffler
 Tom Sabotta
 Stacie Sullivan
 Angie Thomas
 Jason Geltz



Check it Out . . .

from the St. Paul Library in the room behind the Sanctuary.

SECRET SANTA—by Robert Tate Miller and Beth Polson

A generous benefactor has the people of a small town baffled as to his or her identity. This is a warm, cheerful story with an unexpected end. If you would like a change of pace from the frenetic, commercialized Christmas ads, you will enjoy this.

STORIES BEHIND THE BEST LOVED SONGS OF CHRISTMAS—by Ace Collins

In truth, it was not the church mice that damaged the organ at Saint Nicholas Church in Oberndorf, Austria. Historians blame age and extreme cold. But despite the disabled organ, one of the world's most beloved songs was performed by a small choir and guitarist. Father Joseph Mohr's poem and teacher Franz Grubers' guitar chords brought SILENT NIGHT to the gathered faithful that Christmas Eve in 1818. There are thirty other wonderful stories of the origins of Christmas music, some of which is very old, and some surprisingly recent.

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

Return Service Requested



December Birthdays

Gabriel Goodyear	12/1	Sammie Joens	12/18
Rodney Bluml	12/1	Barb Wilson	12/19
Paul Pinney	12/2	Langley Miller	12/19
Kenneth Humpal	12/2	Steven Dornbusch	12/20
Linda Kenny	12/3	Anna Minnie	12/22
Dennie Hinrichs	12/4	Lance Toenjes	12/23
Faith Ewing	12/5	Mariah Farr	12/23
Pat Plueger	12/6	Angie Keller	12/25
Arlie Willems	12/6	Cade Folken	12/26
Dan Lambertsen	12/6	Nicholas Lehrman	12/28
Ralph Andresen	12/7	Emily Meyer	12/30
Bing Postel	12/8	Kyle Vavricek	12/30
Janice Kurtz	12/9		
Phyllis Kula	12/10		
Adelynn Tjaden	12/10		
Don Hardersen	12/10		
Charlotte Hoover	12/11		
Ernest Ulferts	12/14		
Deb Zumbach	12/14		
Ella Snider	12/18		



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.