

ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Church Office Number: 885-2221

Pastor Nathan Peitsch

Elders: John Greder, Deryl Hennings, John Thies, Steve Gust

OCTOBER 2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In our Wednesday night catechism class, we have recently been studying the importance of God's Word. This includes how we read it, why we read it, and how we understand it. As we enter October and our celebration of Reformation Day approaches, this focus on the Word of God is a good one for all of us to consider.

Martin Luther began his reformation efforts because of his study of the Word of God. When he found himself despairing over all the things the church was telling him he had to do perfectly he went to the Word of God looking for answers. What he found there was not more rules for him to follow but grace far more sufficient than any satisfactions anyone of Luther's day was able to make.

Luther continued his study of the Word of God and discovered that we are saved by grace. In fact, an argument could be made for Ephesians 2:8-9 being the theme verses for the Reformation. There we read,

"For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast." - Eph. 2:8-9

Luther continued to study God's Word and made it the foundation of everything he taught. He believed so strongly that the Word of God is central to our lives as Christians that he worked to translate the Bible into a language his people could actually understand. Latin had fallen out of use in the wider world but was still considered the only language of the church. Luther worked to change that by putting the Bible into the hands of the people.

Thanks to Luther we can study the Word of God in our own language. And now there are so many different translations of the Scriptures it's hard to even count them. And yet with all these different versions of the Bible available to us, we still fall short in spending

time in the Word of God. We still don't study it like we ought.

The Scriptures themselves attest to the importance of studying them. Psalm 119 reminds us in various places the importance of knowing God's Word:

"I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you." Ps. 119:11

And "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." Ps. 119:105

For Luther, God's Word brought him hope in the midst of his despair over sin. It brought light where there seemed to be only darkness, serving as a light on the path.

That light of God's Word is there for us too, giving us hope in the midst of despair. God's Word shows us the promises of God and how He has fulfilled them time and time again. So how do we study it? What should we do? The prayer known as the "Collect for the Word" has some good suggestions: read, mark, learn, and take it to heart. Spend time in God's Word. Read it. Learn what it says, and as the Psalmist puts it, hide that Word in your heart.

For Luther the study of Scripture was built on some simple principles. Luther understood that the central focus of God's Word is salvation in Christ. He studied Scripture always looking for this central theme. Thus a good question to ask when studying a passage is, "what does this have to do with what Jesus has done?"

In addition, our study of the Scriptures should be based on the principle that "Scripture interprets Scripture." If you find yourself confused by a passage ask yourself, "what does the Bible say about this topic elsewhere?" If you're not sure, check for footnotes or cross-references in your Bible on that verse.

One final principle to remember is God's Word is a treasure of Law and Gospel, Law showing us our need for salvation and Gospel reassuring us of God's forgiveness for us all in

Christ. So may we continue to study God's Word that we might learn it and take it to heart. In Christ,
Pastor Nathan Peitsch

SNOW REMOVAL

We are looking for someone to remove the snow off the sidewalks and steps this winter. If you are interested, please contact a trustee: Jim Thies, Gary Goslar or Ted Nutt



DRIVE UP COMMUNION

On Monday, October 4th & 18th there will be drive-up communion from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. in the back-parking lot.



Thursday, October 7th, Elders Meeting at 6:30 p.m.
Tuesday, October 12th, Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
Sunday, October 17th, Voter's Meeting after church.

Here's a few items on the Voter's Agenda:

- Budget
- Nomination Committee



Mission Central – Visiting Missionaries 2021

LCMS World Mission 40718 Highway E16
Mapleton, IA 51034 712-882-1029 Gary Thies
(gary.thies@lcms.org) www.missioncentral.us

- October 9, 2021 – Rev. James and Christel Neuendorf – Puerto Rico – 1pm
- October 9, 2021- Kim Buelmann – Germany – 1:30 pm
- October 22, 2021 – Chelsea Irwin – Czech Republic – 1:00 pm

2021 SPECIAL MISSION PROJECTS

This year's special mission project is The Grulkes', Lutheran Bible Translators. If you would like to give to special missions, please write the check to St. Paul's Lutheran Church and mark (Special Missions) on your envelope or on the check memo.



We will celebrate LWML Sunday on October 3rd. All members are invited to wear purple. A noisy collection will be taken for a mite offering at both doors which supports the mission of the church throughout the world.

This year's LWML Sunday theme is "Our Hearts in HIS Hand," based on 1 Peter 4:8: *Above all, keep loving one another earnestly.* Verse 11b goes on to say: *that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.* We glorify God by sharing His love with others. Because of your generous donations to mites, we can share the Gospel throughout the world. Join us on LWML Sunday to give thanks and praise to God. Thank you for supporting the LWML!

LCW MEETING

LCW Meeting is Wednesday, October 13th at 1:00 p.m.



In the month of October we will be taking donations for the Orphan Grain Train. Boxes will be in the back of the sanctuary. Please put the clothes in bags. Thank you for your donations.

BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS FOR OCTOBER

We are listing Baptismal birthdays to remember and celebrate the day we were adopted into the family of God through the washing of the Holy Spirit. Those having Baptismal birthdays in October are:

Sara Purcell	2
Don Petersen-Joyce Vinke	4
Sandy Bauman	6
Liam Gray	7
Duane Mordhorst-Ethan Jones	9
Karen McCall	10
Dylan Hanson	11
Shirley Gosch-Lynette Thies- Angela Teut	14
Aaron Folk	18
Darin Wood	21
Wyatt Hinds	23
Dennis Nelson-John Thies- Keegan Bretthauer	24
Alyse Bretthauer-George Hull- Becky Meadows-Mike Ohlmeier	26
Sally Goslar	27
Shane Sorensen	28
Nisha Hull	31



PLEASE GIVE US A CALL

- before going to the hospital
- birth of your baby
- death in the family
- making wedding plans
- address and name changes
- private communion



NEWSLETTER SPONSORS

Please contact the office if you'd like to sponsor the newsletter. The cost is \$37.



Volunteer Work Weekend

October 8th – 9th is Volunteer Work weekend. Help us wrap up the summer season & prepare for winter. Lodging & Meals are covered. Call the Camp Office to let us know you're coming. (712)337-3325



GOOD SHEPHERD HOUR

This program is a ½ hour worship service heard on Sioux City, KSCJ, 1360 AM, at 8:00 am.

MAIN STREET LIVING

Main Street Living is a television ministry of the Lutheran churches of Missouri-Synod and of the Iowa West District. The worship service is on Sundays at 10 am on channel 9 KCAU, the ABC Network from Sioux City.

"THY STRONG WORD"

Thy Strong Word is a 5 min. daily devotional message given by LC-MS pastors! It is aired at 6:25 a.m., Mon.-Sat. on KDSN, FM107.1

Oct. 4-9	Rev. Merle Mahnken Immanuel, Schleswig
Oct. 11-16	Rev. Chad Trunkhill Our Savior/Bethlehem
Oct. 18-23	Rev. Richard Merrill Multi-Point, Charter Oak
Oct. 25-30	Rev. Nathan Peitsch St. Paul's, Ute

St Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
The upcoming
VOTER'S MEETING AGENDA
Sunday, October 17, 2021, after the service

Opening Prayer	Pastor Peitsch
Corrections/Additions/Acceptance of Agenda	Officers/Members
Call to Order	Don Petersen
Previous Minutes	Audrey Gust

Reports

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| (1) Treasurers Report | Deanna Sorensen |
| (2) Pastors Report/Announcements
- Adult Instruction Class | Pastor Peitsch |
| (3) Board of Elders
- Attendance-Worship/Communion | John Greder |
| (4) Board of Trustees
- steeple project
- parsonage doors | Jim Thies |
| (5) Board of Education/Youth
- Sunday School
- Christmas program | Rick Knuth |
| (6) Stewardship | Terri Mohr |

Old Business

Paraments

New Business

2022 Budget
Nomination Committee

Next Meetings

- NEXT COUNCIL MEETING
- NEXT VOTER'S MEETING

November 9, 2021
January 16, 2022

***EVENING MTG-7:00 PM**
After worship service

Closing Prayer

Pastor Peitsch