

ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Rev. Nathan Peitsch • Head Elder: Bruce Mohr; Elders: Steve Gust, John Thies, Gary McCall

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May 2023

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This may is a joyous time for many. There are a number of things being celebrated this month. We celebrate together as our confirmands confirm their faith and become communicant members of our congregation. We join together with our graduates to celebrate their accomplishments as they finish their schooling and move on to new things. And this year, we also have the joy of celebrating the 125 years that God has given us as a congregation as we welcome back Pastor Manley as a guest preacher on the 21st.

As we find all these different reasons to celebrate, I am reminded of the words of St Paul from Philippians chapter 4. There we read:

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God." -**Phil.**

**4:4-6**

These words remind us of where our true reason to rejoice can be found: in the Lord. It is He who instructs our confirmands by means of His Word and Spirit. He sees our graduates through their time in school and guides them through each day. He prospers the work of our hands as we work every day to serve Him in so many different ways.

With God's hand in all that we endeavor throughout our lives, it's easy to see why we are called to rejoice in the Lord always, for without Him we would have nothing. The psalmist says it quite well in the 150th Psalm,

"Let everything that has breath praise the LORD! Praise the LORD!" - **Psalms 150:6**

As the giver of all good things, we are encouraged to praise God for all the good He has given to us and done for us. Last month we

rejoiced together as we celebrated Jesus' triumphant victory over death and the grave. Sunday after Sunday we remember this victory as we worship together in our churches.

All that being said, our rejoicing isn't just about the praise we give to God, we also rejoice with our actions. In Colossians 3, St Paul encourages us:

"Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ." -

**Col. 3:23-24**

Confirmands, graduates, congregants celebrating an anniversary, whatever the case, we are called not just to rejoice in the Lord, but to work as if it is Him we are serving. When studying for a test, we do so as for the Lord. When serving in the church, we serve as for the Lord, not just for the members of our congregation.

As God's children, everything we do should be done in His name and for His glory. When we worship, we worship with all our hearts knowing it is Christ we are worshiping. When we serve we serve with all our hearts, knowing it is Christ we are serving. All that we have is a gift from Him: our Church, our education, our faith, even our very lives. And so we are called to rejoice in Him, to serve Him in all we do. And worship together as we celebrate all His good gifts.

And so this month as you join together with confirmands or graduates or other members of the congregation to celebrate these various accomplishments, let us ever remember to give thanks and praise to God for without Him, none of these accomplishments would have been possible. Let us rejoice, worship, and serve as if we are doing so it for the Lord that in all things we may bring glory and honor to Him.

In His Service, Pastor Nathan Peitsch

**MONTHLY MEETING**

Elders Meeting is Thursday, May 2<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.  
Council Meeting is Tuesday, May 9<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM.

**Orphan Grain Train **

Thank you for all the donations to Orphan Grain Train in April. The next month will be October.

**CATECHISM QUESTIONING:** You are invited to hear our 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmands publicly confess their faith in God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 7 pm.

**CONFIRMATION**

On May 7<sup>th</sup>, our eighth-grade members will make a public confession of the faith given in her baptism and nurtured through years of instruction in Sunday School and weekday classes. Confirmands in 2023 are Landen Meseck, Micah Peitsch & Grace Schaffer.



**CHURCH RECORDS**

**Baptism**

Kaia Elise Mordhorst, daughter of Laura & Diego Mordhorst, received the Sacrament of Holy Baptism on March 26<sup>th</sup>.

KaeLynn Ann Joseph, daughter of Marisa Joseph & Marshall Mennis, received the Sacrament of Holy Baptism on April 29<sup>th</sup>.

Selene Jane Olson, daughter of Holly Marie Welte & Jason Olson, received the Sacrament of Holy Baptism on April 29<sup>th</sup>.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Last day of Sunday School is May 14<sup>th</sup>.

**EASTER BREAKFAST**

Thank you to everyone that came to the Easter Breakfast and the LYF for hosting.

**BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS FOR MAY**

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.

Kristina Bernholtz, Austin Leitz	3
Kendra Creese	4
Bernice Schuitema	6
Jennifer Burbridge, Jesse Thies	7
Jacob Sorensen, NiKay Schaffer	8
Jeffery Mordhorst, Matthew Leitz,	9
Roger Krohn	
Elaine Vogt	11
Justin Hanson, Lainey Bernholtz	12
Shawn King	
David Hageman	13
Evelyn Thies	14
Joan Hennings	17
Carol Ullerich	18
Kimberly Creese	19
Paul Tuttle	20
Mason Kuhlmann	21
Lillian Carritt, Josiah Peitsch	22
Matthew Sorensen	
Liam Meadows, Mila Meadows	23
Matthew Hanson	27
Travis Meadows	28
Steven Gust, Kimberly King, Nina Leitz	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



## St. Paul's Lutheran Church

1898 Ute, Iowa 2023

*"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever."*

The Committee want to thank the congregation for all their support so far, it's greatly appreciated and we should have a very successful 125th celebration in August!

We have two events planned in May. We hope you will be able to attend.

**May 21<sup>st</sup>** - Pastor Manley will be preaching on this Sunday and will cover the "past" part of our theme and we will be holding a potluck dinner. The meat will be supplied by the 125th committee. We would appreciate any side, dishes or desserts. The congregation would like to contribute.

**May 28<sup>th</sup>** A guest preacher and post-worship speaker Pastor Michael Wolfram from Lutheran Family Service will be here. Lutheran Family Service is our Special Mission Project and 125<sup>th</sup> Thank Offering.

**May 29<sup>th</sup>** - The 125th will be serving a light lunch out of the Ute Senior Center for Memorial Day. We hope that you will come and enjoy visiting with incoming relatives and friends and have a meal with us.

As always, we appreciate any ideas you might have and again thank you for all of your support.

125th steering committee

### Upcoming 125<sup>th</sup> Special Worship Services

*"Jesus Christ is the same..."*

May 21<sup>st</sup> – Yesterday – *Rev. Marcus Manley*

July 23<sup>rd</sup> – Today – *Rev. Nathan Peitsch*

August 20<sup>th</sup> – Forever – *Rev. Dr. Steve Turner*

### What is a Thank Offering?

A gift in response and remembrance of God's past blessings!

St Paul's 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Thank Offering

Recipients are...

### Lutheran Family Services (LFS)

- **2022 is LFS 130<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**
- **All Services** are State and Nationally Accredited
- **20 Locations** within Iowa
- **LFS Serves** all 99 Iowa Counties in Iowa
- **LFS Focus** is on support and counseling for...
  1. Adoption Services
  2. Pregnancy Help
  3. Marriage Counseling
  4. Mental Health Counseling
  5. Parental Support Services
  6. Behavioral Health for Youth
  7. Early Childhood Resources
  8. Disability Services

### St Paul's Jeremiah Fund (JF)

- **Jeremiah Fund** - established at St Paul in 2007
- **Jeremiah Fund's Mission Statement** – "To encourage and provide spiritual growth opportunities to the youth of St Paul" (*Youth- Elementary, Jr High, High School, and College levels*)
- **How are Spiritual Growth Opportunities provided?** JF's financial grants enable St Paul's youth to attend LCMS Servant Events and Youth Gatherings at State, National and International levels.
- **Servant Events** and **Youth Gatherings** can be life changing events!

### **How do I give to St Paul's Thank Offering?**

- Place your gift in the Penny Fund Jar at entrance of St Paul!
- Mail your Thank Offering gift to:  
-St Paul's Lutheran Church, 303 E 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Ute, Iowa, 51060.

YOU DID IT!  
*Congratulations*

We would like to Congratulate our 2023  
High School Graduates

**BACCALAUREATE SUNDAY**

The Blessing of our High School Graduates will  
be during the Service on May 21<sup>st</sup>.



**Jenna Hanson**

**Graduating from:**  
Denison High School

**Future Plans:** I am  
enlisted in the Iowa  
Army National Guard  
as a Combat Medic  
and plan on traveling  
through the Guard.  
Otherwise, if I want  
to, I will come back

home after all of my training and attend ISU to  
study animal science and see where life takes  
me from there!

**Brenner Jung**

**Graduating from:**  
MVAO-COU High  
School

**Future Plans:**

I plan to attend  
WIT this fall &  
continue working  
as well.



**Gavin Purcell**

**Graduated from:** Whiting High School

**Future Plans:** undecided



**Ethan Kuhlmann**

**Graduating from:**  
MVAO-COU High  
School

**Future Plans:** I plan  
to attend Iowa  
Western  
Community College  
for Electrical  
Technology



**Keenan Riddle**

**Graduating from:** Whiting High School

**Future Plans:** I plan to starting an  
apprenticeship with Midwest mechanical this as  
a plumber apprentice



**Emily Sorensen**

**Graduating from:**  
MVAO-COU High  
School

**Future Plans:** I will  
be studying  
Elementary  
Education at  
Wayne State  
College, Nebraska

A Big THANK YOU to everyone that came to the Ute Community Building to hear the Grateful Heart. It was a wonderful night of music and Root Beer Floats. We also had a silent auction that night.

**THANK YOU** to the 125<sup>th</sup> committee for hosting the event.



**St. Paul's Lutheran Church**  
1898 Ute, Iowa 2023

*"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever."*

## **NEWSLETTER SPONSORS**

The newsletter this month is sponsored in honor of cancer patients & their families.

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



## **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

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|---------------|---|
| May 1-6       | Rev. Mark Kluzek<br>St. John, Kiron/Faith, Deloit |
| May 8-13      | Rev. William Wrede<br>Zion, Denison               |
| May 15-20     | Rev. Merle Mahnken<br>Immanuel, Schleswig         |
| May 22-27     | Rev. Chad Trunkhill<br>Our Savior/Bethlehem       |
| May 29-June 3 | Rev. Richard Merrill<br>Multi-Point, Charter Oak  |

## **GOOD SHEPHERD HOUR**

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

## **Mission Central – Visiting Missionaries 2023**

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

- May 6, 2023 – Rev. Micah Wildauer and family – Belize – 1:00 pm
- May 6, 2023 – Rev. Tyler McMiller family – Italy – 1:30 pm

Camp Okoboji is committed to providing youth an experience within a temporary community using the outdoor setting and trained leaders to meet spiritual objectives. From their experience at Camp Okoboji, youth will be enriched in the faith, established in Christian Community, and equipped & emboldened to live out their faith in their regular routines of life. The following are Camp Okoboji's Youth Camps:

**KIDS' KAMP** | (June 2-4) K-2nd Grade Students & Families

**CUB WEEK** | (Cub week 1 June 25-29, Cub week 2 July 16-22) 3-5th Grade students

**JUNIOR HIGH WEEK** | (July 9-15) 6-8th Grade students

**YOUTH WEEK** | (July 23-29) 8-12<sup>th</sup> Grade students

[www.campokoboji.com](http://www.campokoboji.com)



## April 16, 2023, Voters Meeting Recap

The meeting opened with prayer, and the minutes of the previous 01/15/23 meeting and the 02/26/23 special voters meeting were printed out for everyone to read. Motion carried to approve the minutes. The Treasurer's Report for 01/01/23-03/31/23 was presented. Motion carried to approve the Treasurer's Report. Pastor reported that Lenten and Easter services went well, and he enjoyed doing the "Rocky Road" theme. If we continue to work with Mapleton, the service times on Easter will have to be changed as there was no time for him in between services. Wednesday Bible Class and shut-in visits are continuing. Questioning night for the confirmands will be May 3, and Confirmation will be on May 7 for the three students. May 1 & 2 he will be in Ft. Dodge for the District Pastor's Conference. Attendance figures for January, February, and March were given. Some discussion was held on attendance and giving, and also regarding on-line viewing. The elders will be working on revising some parts of the constitution on term limits and the number serving on boards, and also on better ways to track attendance. The new camera system has been purchased and we are waiting for it to be installed. The camera will be installed upstairs and will have different settings that can be programmed to focus on Pastor during the sermon, on the screen for hymns and readings, on the Baptism font during Baptisms, etc. The last day of Sunday School will be May 14 and VBS will be July 16-19. Someone for Lutheran Family Services will come and preach on May 28. A handout was given on the activity of the 125<sup>th</sup> Committee as well as the future events planned. Picture taking for the directory will stop the end of April. Sheets will be set out and put in the newsletter for everyone to fill in their latest contact information to be put in the directory. John Greder reported on the annual Camp Okoboji meeting which he attended. Bruce Mohr reported on the meeting held here March 27 with some members of St. Matthew's and Circuit Visitor Pastor Salcido regarding a possible joining together. At the end of the meeting, Salcido reported that there was man retiring from Drake University who wants to be a pastor through the SMP program which is a way Synod can train pastors from lay people. This man will be meeting with St. Matthew's on April 23. We need to keep St. Matthew's in prayer as they work with this man, and we can continue to negotiate and brainstorm on programs we can do with them. Pastor Peitsch has been serving their vacancy for nearly a year now, and he and the elders will discuss it. The next Council meeting will be May 9, and the next voters meeting will be July 16. A motion to adjourn was made and carried. Pastor led the voters in praying the Lord's Prayer.