

ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

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September 2023

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Well, another school year has begun. The kids are back in school and confirmation classes are getting started once again. And I can't help but think of the old saying, "you learn something new every day." As classes begin again, I'm sure this is especially true for our students, but it tends to ring true for all of us. We learn things about our friends, our jobs, and our family. We learn things about the world.

There are all sorts of ways that we can go about learning these new things. The internet is full of places we can go to learn new skills. There are plenty of books out there to teach us about whatever topic we may be interested in. Or maybe you're one who prefers to learn by doing and so as you set to a task you begin to learn what is needed to accomplish that job.

Students are sent to school to learn. Perhaps your job requires you to take some courses to learn how to operate a new machine or how to use a piece of software. Others take time to learn things simply for the enjoyment of learning something new. Whatever the case, we spend a lot of time in our lives learning.

How much of that learning time is spent studying God's Word? John tells us there's always more we could talk about when it comes to Jesus. In John 21, we read, "Now there are also many other things that Jesus did. Were every one of them to be written, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written." John 21:25 If all the books in the world couldn't contain the works of Christ, I should think we would never stop learning about Him.

David understood this. He writes in the psalms, "Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all the day long." - Ps. 25:4-5 David knew there was always more to learn. More for God to teach us, whether we are learning about God's commands and all that He righteously requires of us, or about the good news of what He has done for us. We need to learn from Him. Many of those who approached Jesus during His ministry called Him, "rabbi" a term that means "teacher". His disciples spent much of their time learning from Him. In Matthew 13 and others, we hear the disciples approach Jesus asking Him to explain to them the parables He was teaching. They knew they had much to learn from Him. We see this desire to learn from Him not just from the disciples though. In Luke 10, we read, "Now as they went on their way, Jesus entered a village. And a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to his teaching." - Luke 10:38-39 Mary too wanted to learn all that Jesus had to teach.

And so it should be for us. We should strive to learn all that God has to teach us in His word. In the Old Testament, the people of Israel were encouraged to discuss God's Word as they walked on the road. I was taught my second year of high school that the term sophomore can essentially be translated as "wise fool". The idea being that by that time you are wise enough to know that there's a lot you don't know. If only we could all be sophomore's, wise fools. Understanding that there's always more to learn.

Pastors, teachers, students, old and young alike, all have things we can learn. And so we ought always to be studying God's Word. And so God gives us different opportunities to learn from Him. He has given us His word in our own language that we might study it at home. He gives us opportunity to hear it preached and taught here at church on Sunday as we gather as His people to worship Him and receive His good gifts. And He invites us to join in this learning and teaching as we gather for Sunday School and various Bible Studies. I encourage you as the school year starts to ask yourself now, and throughout the year to come, "what have I learned from God's Word today?" Luther himself didn't think he knew all there was to learn of God's Word. So may we ever be life-long learners.

In Christ, Pastor Nathan Peitsch

MONTHLY MEETINGS

On Tuesday, September 5th, Elder's Meeting will meet at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, September 12th, the Council Meeting will meet at 7:00 p.m.

CATECHISM

Catechism will start Wednesday, September 7th.
4:30 – 5:30 p.m. – 5th - 6th Grades Class
5:30 – 6:00 p.m. - Memory Work/Simple snack
6:00 – 7:00 p.m. – 7th – 8th Grade Class

SUPPORT OUR CATECHISM FAMILIES

We need volunteers to provide a simple snack every Wednesday for our Catechism students from 5:30-6:00 pm. Sign-up sheet is on the back table.



Rally Sunday is September 10th with Sunday School starting at 9:00 a.m. After the service we will be setting the new 2023 time capsule in place, followed by a potluck/meal. The meat will be provided so please bring a side dish.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School will start September 10, 2023 with a KICK OFF and end May 19, 2024 with a BLOW OUT. We are still needing help with teachers and helpers. Sign-up sheet is on the back table. Lesson plans and materials will be provided and are downloadable. Once a month there will be a craft day. Sign Ups sheets for that will be separate from teachers and helpers. Sign up as much as you want!

BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS FOR SEPTEMBER

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 are:

Patrick Ohlmeier, Marvin Koch	1
Lois Greder, Bailey Kuhlmann	2
Ray Gosch, Brendan Lane	3
Heather Rosburg	7
Derek Erlemeier	9
Gina Hull	10
Mark Goslar	13
Matt Kelm	14
Ella Fester	15
Arlis Petersen	17
Sara Folk	19
Micah Peitsch	20
Cody Rosburg	22
Sasha Hollander	23
Hannah Hageman	25
Grace Schaffer	26
Delaine Nelson	27
Heath Winsor	28
Trent Mordhorst	29
Tyler Leitz, Wyatt Kotalik, Christen Leitz	30
Keara Schofield	



SPECIAL BIRTHDAYS

September 11 – Shirley Gosch (89 yrs old)
September 17 – Nick Goslar (80 yrs old)

SPECIAL ANNIVERSARIES

September 3 – Lyle & Tammy Bramley (46 yrs)

PLEASE GIVE US A CALL

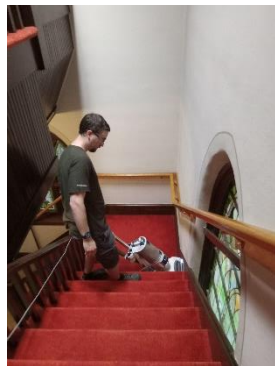
- before going to the hospital
- birth of your baby
- death in the family
- making wedding plans
- address and name changes
- private communion

CHURCH CLEANING/LYF

Thank you to the LYF and other volunteers for helping to clean the church on August 2nd



The LYF would like to Thank the congregation for providing the pizza for church cleaning night.



YOUTH GARAGE SALE & BAKE SALE



We had a successful garage sale and bake sale. Thank you to all the people that donated items for the garage sale and baked for the bake sale. Also, thanks to everyone that helped before and during the sale.



125th COMMEMORATIVE T-SHIRTS

Get your 125th commemorative T-shirt to celebrate our congregation's anniversary. Basic shirt is \$20.00

Order here:

<https://isntitonic.com/collections/st-pauls-lutheran-church-125th-celebration>

Or use your cell-phone camera to scan the QR code. If you do not have access and would like to have a shirt contact Bruce Mohr (712-269-8771) along with your sizes.

ICONIC





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

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

**"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and tomorrow"-
Hebrews 13:8**

THANK YOU: We would like to **Thank** everyone that helped make this a wonderful 125th celebration.

**Opening Time
Capsule**

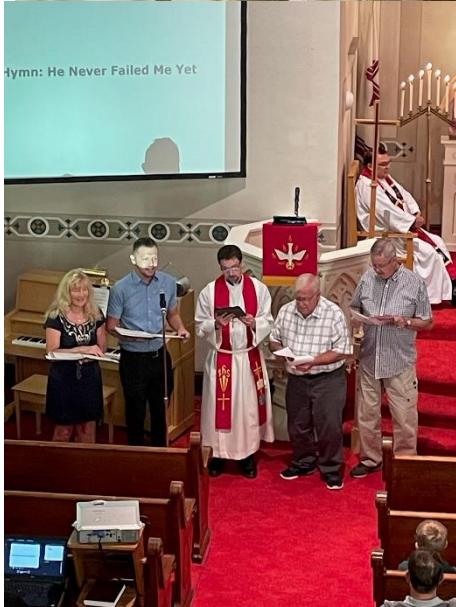


Float in the Ute Fun Day parade

125th Sunday Worship



**Rev. Dr. Steve Turner
Rev. Nathan Peitsch**



Lynette and John

Choir





125th Display



125th Dinner

Time Capsule Contents



SPECIAL MISSION PROJECT

This year our Special Mission Project is the same as the 125th Thank Offering which is Lutheran Family Service and St. Paul's Jeremiah Fund. Our goal is \$3,000 to go to the Special Mission Project.

What is a Thank Offering?

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

St Paul's 125th Anniversary Thank Offering Recipients are Lutheran Family Service and St. Paul's Jeremiah Fund.

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 4th Street, Ute, Iowa, 51060.



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.

GOOD SHEPHERD HOUR

This program is a 1/2 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

- Sept. 4-9 Vacancy pastor
 St. John, Kiron/Faith, Deloit
- Sept. 11-16 Rev. William Wrede
 Zion, Denison
- Sept. 18-23 Rev. Merle Mahnken
 Immanuel, Schleswig
- Sept. 25-30 Rev. Chad Trunkhill
 Our Savior/Bethlehem

OFFERING

Please put your name on the offering envelopes especially if using an envelope from another year. This will help make it easier for the treasurer to know who is making this donation so she can credit you for income tax purposes.

STEWARDSHIP

AUTOMATIC DEBIT - An automatic debit from your checking account to St. Paul's account may be an option if you would like to give to the church on a regular basis or you just want to simplify our giving without writing a check each week or month. You can specify an amount and how often this amount should be transferred from your checking account to St. Paul's account at Community Bank, and it will automatically be done for you. Your bank can help you fill out a short form. This debit can be stopped or changed at any time by contacting your bank. You will want to let the Treasurer know who is making this donation so she can credit you for income tax purposes.

GRAIN - As the harvest approaches, St. Paul's Stewardship committee would like to remind the farmers that one option for giving is the gift of grain. A form is included in the newsletter if you want to do this. This gift is not tax deductible, but you will not declare the amount of the grain as income.

IDW CAMP/YOUTH GATHERING SCHOLARSHIP

Iowa District West Camp/Youth Gathering Scholarships Assistance for those who need financial aid is available from the district for youth attending camps at Camp Okoboji and for district youth gatherings. The application should be filled out by the pastor or church worker from the congregation of which the applicant is a member. Applications are then sent to the district office. Click on the link and select "Youth Events Financial Aid." <http://idwlcms.org/forms-and-links.php>

Mission Central – Visiting Missionaries 2023

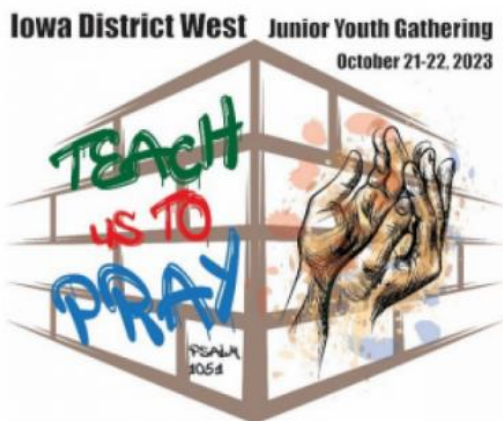
LCMS World Mission 40718 Highway E16 Mapleton, IA 51034 712-882-1029 Gary Thies (gary.thies@lcms.org) www.missioncentral.us

- Sept 9, 2023 – Mindy Thews–Taiwan–1:00 pm
- Sept 9, 2023 – Sandra Rhein – Asia – 1:30 pm

SOUP COOK-OFF

Looking for volunteers to help plan the next Soup cook-off. Please call John Greder (712)269-8337 if you would like to help.

Junior Youth Gathering



October 21-22, 2023

"Teach Us To Pray"

Bible Verse: Psalm 105:1

Senior Youth Gathering



Date: November 17-19, 2023

Topic: Ready, Set, Go

Theme Verse: Matt 28:19-20a

Dear Friends in Christ,

Thank you for your invitation to your 125th anniversary. We rejoice with you as you celebrate this anniversary. Indeed "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever." By the power of His Holy Spirit all of us as His disciples will continue to love God and our neighbors as ourselves. Due to the distance and health concerns Helynn and I will not be able to join you. We well remember the wonderful 100th celebration and know You will have a great time together.

In Christ,

Pastor Ed Bode and Helynn

Family update:

We moved to Colorado Springs 7 years ago because our two sons and all the grandchildren are here. Kirk is married and has two children ages 13 and 11. He still works in surveying and lives 5 minutes from us. Son Eric is married And has 2 adopted children ages 12 and 11. Daughter Beth lives in SD and we see her often.

August 8, 2023

Dear Friends in Christ at St. Paul's,

We give thanks to God with you for His never-ending grace and mercy as you celebrate 125 years of His saving gospel being proclaimed in the Ute community. It was my privilege to serve in the gospel ministry with you for nine of those years.

For my last sermon on July 17, 2011, I used Jeremiah 29:11 as the text: "For I know the plans that I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Since that day, we have continually seen how God uses our experiences in the past to prepare us for the future. After leaving Ute, we settled in Meridian, Idaho and served a short-term mission in Macau, China that fall. Beginning in June 2012, I served a 20-month vacancy at a nearby congregation.

During that vacancy, God's plans for me started to be unveiled. By His gracious guidance, and through a jail visit and word being passed among inmates, a ministry of communication with individuals eager to hear words of hope and security began. With the Lord's blessing it developed and grew. At present it involves sending mailings of sermons and devotions, jail visits when possible, and offering phone calls and messaging to an ever-changing contact list that is nearly 100. Your theme verse is Hebrews 13:8, "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." That certainty means that I can use the same message I delivered from your pulpit to bring Christ's forgiveness and life to recipients today.

We attend a growing congregation in a growing city: Good Shepherd in Boise, Idaho. I fill in when the pastor is away on church responsibilities and vacation, and for other area congregations. Good Shepherd is a singing congregation and Eileen has relished her role as regular organist and enjoys preparing for services.

The grandson we left to join is now 12 and has sisters ages 10 and 8. We have been richly blessed to experience their childhoods and assist their parents. Our daughter and her husband in Boston have a daughter, age 3, and a son, age 1. Our pastimes include extensive gardening and occasional camping. As many have discovered, it seems that "retirement" is just as busy as what preceded.

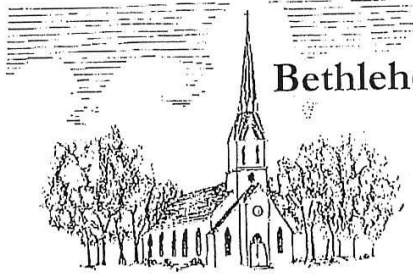
Time marches on, always moving forward. The makeup of St. Paul's congregation has no doubt changed significantly in the past 12 years. Each succeeding generation can experience the joy of hearing and believing the gospel of forgiveness and life in Christ, and the opportunity to share that good news with those seeking lasting hope and peace.

Time marches on, toward the goal of an eternal life of heavenly joy in the presence of our Savior and departed saints. May the Lord richly bless St. Paul's as you live out the plans the Lord has for you.

Fellow servants of the Savior,

Pastor Eileen

Pastor and Eileen Brandt



Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church

Church: 6351 North 200th Street
Office: 6409 North 200th Street
Altamont, IL 62411
bethlehemaltamont@gmail.com
618-483-6756

Dear saints of St. Paul's, Ute:

You all are looking pretty fine at the ripe ol' age of 125. What a wonderful blessing to celebrate your Quasiquicentennial. Praise God for His providence to sustain His blessed church and you saints in every circumstance of need and abundance (Phil. 4:12). Truly, Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever (Heb. 13:8).

Amid all the thanksgivings for God's grace to you, this anniversary is a wonderful time for you to marvel how God has answered your prayer: Hallowed be Thy name. Luther teaches us that "God's name is kept holy when the Word of God is taught in its truth and purity, and we, as the children of God, also lead holy lives according to it. Help us to do this, dear Father in heaven! But anyone who teaches or lives contrary to God's Word profanes the name of God among us. Protect us from this, heavenly Father!"

In the years before and after A.D. 1898, the year St. Paul's was founded, who could foresee what many Christians even nominal Lutherans would become today. What could St. Paul's have been if the Norwegian Soldier congregation had come up and planted a congregation in Ute instead of the German Lutherans and families tied to Charter Oak. What would your congregation be if it were part of an evolving confession, an altered subscription, an "as long as" belief in the word of God? All these are marks of nominal Lutherans who practice and support radically different things today than in A.D. 1898.

God has blessed and sustained you despite this crumbling world. Your confession is the same as that given long before to the Emperor of the Holy Roman Empire in A.D. 1530! Your subscription of faith in God is unaltered (UAC). You believe the Word of the Lord endures forever. You praise Jesus Christ the same, yesterday, today, and forever. So many things have changed in 125 years, but God has taught His word to you in truth in purity for you to lead holy lives according to it. He has kept you from profane practices and false teaching. You have God's law and Gospel, to command and comfort you, to convict and forgive you in the name of our crucified and risen Lord, Jesus Christ. Maybe there are less people in the pews than there were years ago, but there's not any less truth in God's Word and salvation for you in Christ Jesus. For He is the same, yesterday, today, and forever.

Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great Shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do His will, working in us that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen. (Hebrews 13:20-21)

Reverend Marcus Manley

Reverend Marcus Manley
(Pastor of St. Paul's A.D. 2012-2017)



ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Email: stjohnc@frontiernet.net



August 14, 2023

Rev. Nathan Peitsch
St. Paul's Lutheran Church
303 E. 4th St., P.O. Box 139
Ute, Iowa 51060

Dear Pastor Peitsch and members of St. Paul's,

Greetings in the name of our risen Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Your brothers and sisters at St. John, St. Paul, and Immanuel Lutheran Churches in the Charter Oak community rejoice with you as you celebrate 125 years of God's blessings as a congregation. You have truly been a blessing to the Ute community in proclaiming the Gospel message of the crucified and risen Christ for these 125 years.

As you reflect on the many blessings God has provided you as a congregation over these years and remember the pastors and leaders who have guided you in the Word of God, may you also rejoice in the continuing presence of Christ in your midst, and look forward to God's blessings in the future. Rural ministry today faces many challenges, but the Lord promises to be with you as you carry out His mission of proclaiming Christ in the Ute area.

The Lord's blessings be yours as you celebrate 125 years of His grace.

Joy and peace in Christ,

Pastor Richard Merrill
and the congregations of St. John, St. Paul and Immanuel, Charter Oak