

ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Church Office Number: 885-2221

Pastor Nathan Peitsch

Elders: Bruce Mohr: 269-8771; John Greder: 269-8337; Deryl Hennings: 885-2877; John McCall: 269-5163

SEPTEMBER 2020

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

As the pandemic stretches on and our need for social distancing and caution continues, it is important not to lose sight of our hope as God's children. That hope is one we are reminded of week in and week out as we gather for worship. Whether you are gathering in person or through some virtual means, we gather around the Word of God to be filled with his Spirit, His truth, His hope.

In the Service of Prayer and Preaching, an order of worship found in our Lutheran Service Book, one of the response options after the Scripture readings has the refrain, "Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells." And while the main point of this refrain is to call to mind our worship in God's House as we gather together, it also pushes us to think about where His glory truly dwells, in Heaven. Yes, gathering in God's house is important, but Jesus himself didn't consider the temple the only place to worship God. In John 4 He has a conversation with the woman at the well, telling her that there will come a day when God's worshippers won't worship in Jerusalem or on a mountain.

In fact, each line of the response I mentioned above focuses not on the sanctuary, but on the Word of God:

"Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens." And "Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it."

These lines remind us that our main focus ought to be on the Word of God not on the place where we are. Luther in his explanation of the 3rd commandment reminds us that we ought not "despise preaching and His Word, but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it."

With that in mind, we are doing everything we can to make that Word of God available to all of you and point you to places where you can continue to be fed by God's Word even though you may not be coming

here to God's House to hear it. We have our Facebook live streams found at [facebook.com/stpaulsute/video](https://www.facebook.com/stpaulsute/video) a site you can visit with or without a Facebook account and view our worship services including past services going all the way back to March. We are making a DVD of the previous month's services available which you can receive by calling the church to request one. If these options don't work for you, check out "Main Street Living" on KCAU channel 9 at 10:30am on Sundays for an LCMS worship service.

In addition, I encourage you to continue to study your Bibles. For devotional purposes, Portals of Prayer are always available here at the church. If you prefer radio, check out KDSN at 6:25 each morning for a devotional thought from local area pastors on the "Thy Strong Word" radio program.

How true St Paul's words are in Romans 10, **"But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim);"**

God's Word is near. It is readily available all around us. At our fingertips on our phones, online, on the radio and television, and I pray that it may be on your lips as well.

Though we may not all be gathering here in God's House, I encourage you to take every opportunity to be in His Word. That it may strengthen and encourage you, assuring you of the hope we have as God's children. And I pray that you find ways to support the sharing of His Word as well. Whether you are sharing it yourself by speaking God's truth to friends, family, or coworkers, or supporting its sharing through donations, Christians gather around the Word of God and our focus should be on its spread in as many ways as possible. May God continue to feed you with His Word whether we are together or apart.

In Christ,
Pastor Nathan Peitsch

ADULT BIBLE CLASS

Come join us on Wednesday's at 11:00 am for Adult Bible Class on the front lawn. Please bring a lawn chair.

WORSHIP SERVICE DVD RECORDINGS:

Can't stream our worship service? DVD recordings will be available monthly with the previous month's services. When you return your DVD, you will receive the next month. If you know someone who could use this share God's Word by spreading the word. Please contact the church to sign up or for more information.



Sunday School classes will start on September 13 at 9:00 a.m. Please register by going to

St. Paul's facebook page:

www.facebook.com/stpaulsute

All is welcome

STAYCATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Thank you to the Board of Education and Pastor for putting together the Staycation Bible School. There were over 40 students that registered.

CATECHISM

Catechism will start Wednesday, September 2nd. 5-6 grades class will meet from 4:30 – 5:30 p.m. and 7-8 grade class will meet from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

SPECIAL MISSION PROJECT

Our Special Mission Project, Carl and Kelsey Grulke of Lutheran Bible Translators, have several ways that we can follow them. The Grulkes' LBT Adventures on Facebook gives you a look into their life and work. It has terrific pictures and an upbeat thankfulness. Go to their group on Facebook and request to join. You've got to check this group out! You can also sign up for their physical newsletter at:

lbt.org/project/rev-carl-kelsey-grulke

There's a button at the bottom of the page to click on "Sign me up for your newsletter"

The Grulkes are back in the US and plan to be here until after Christmas. They ask that we **PRAY** for the missionaries and their families and the translators and their projects

GIVE to support their ministry

TELL to raise awareness of Lutheran Bible Translators.



St. Paul's will celebrate Bible Translator Sunday on **September 27, 2020**. There will be a special offering basket in the back of the church for our special mission project, the Grulke family.

LWML

Fall Rally has been canceled. It is with great hope that we will be able to meet in the spring. St. John, Charter Oak is still planning on hosting with a brunch on a Saturday morning. We will still elect a vice president and treasurer. This will be all on-line. We will continue to pray that this virus will soon be under control that we can meet again at our regular monthly meetings and Bible studies.

VOTERS MEETING RECAP

August 2, 2020, Voters Meeting Recap

The meeting opened with prayer, and the minutes of the previous 1/19/20 meeting were on the screen. An \$18,500.00 PPP Loan was received to pay salaries during the Covid crisis, and the necessary paperwork was being done so it will be forgivable. The General Fund went from \$7,704.04 April 1 to \$-3,110.11 at the end of June. With the PPP Loan of \$14,773.04, the General Fund balance will be \$11,662.93. Receipts were down 14% and expenses were up 12% these past three months compared to last year. Pledge forms will be sent out in September, and it will include Prayer Chain volunteers. Lutheran Bible Translators Sunday will be the last Sunday in September. Livestreaming the services will continue for the foreseeable future for members unable to attend church, and DVD's will soon be made available with the previous month's services. Sunday School at Home will stop the end of August, and a new livestream will be put on by the Sunday School teachers when Sunday School resumes after Labor Day. Staycation Bible School was held online in July. Catechism was suspended in March, and plans are in the works for the student to catch up and be confirmed. The Wednesday Bible Study will resume outside on the front lawn, and how that goes will influence the Sunday morning Bible Study class. We continue to be in contact

with Circuit Visitor Salcido who updates on what the other churches are doing during the pandemic and how to provide the Word of God while keeping everyone safe. We need to make everyone aware of the serious shortfall in giving and the various ways the members can donate including the new on-line Joyful Response. The Elders and Trustees have been working to safely open the church following state and local guidelines, and county and state Covid levels are being monitored. Communion is again being offered on the first and third Sundays, with drive-in Communion offered the Mondays after. Assistance is being requested to help with opening the church on Sundays and for funeral services. A motion was made and seconded to put off the Lifetouch Church Directory pictures until 2021. A motion was made and seconded to proceed with extending the parsonage patio and repairing the driveway for \$4,000.00. A new contract on a new copier was made. The church is misted after every service, and Tanis does the offices on Mondays. Bids are being obtained on the steeple. A new "robo caller" program will be purchased that will offer more credits for an unlimited time and allow both texts and calls for a better price. The Nominating Committee was set up with the heads of the boards serving. The next Voters Meeting will be the third Sunday in October. The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Audrey Gust, Secretary

OFFICIAL ACT IN AT ST. PAUL'S

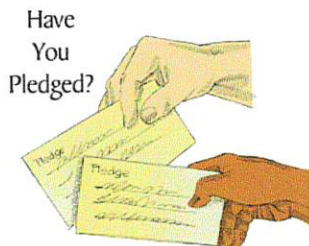
Funerals:

Graveside Service was held on August 4, 2020 for Donnalene L. "Donna" Liska who was called to her eternal home on July 28, 2020.

Memorial Service was held on August 27, 2020 for Eldon Willis Teut who was called to his eternal home on August 22, 2020

PLEDGES

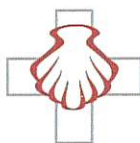
All members are invited to fill out a pledge plan to help their own household plan to support their congregation. Pledge Plans are included in this newsletter. The cards can be filled out and returned by September 29th.



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
Ella Fester	15
Arlis Petersen	17
Sara Folk	19
Micah Peitsch	20
Cody Rosburg	22
Sasha Teut	23
Norma Buschmann-Hannah Hageman	25
Grace Schaffer	26
Delaine Nelson	27
Roger Johnson-Jo Thies-Heath Winsor	28
Trent Mordhorst	29
Tyler Leitz, Christen Leitz,	30
Keara Schofield, Wyatt Kotalik	



"THY STRONG WORD"

Thy Strong Word is a 5 min. daily devotional message given by LC-MS pastors of the Denison area and sponsored by area congregations including St. Paul's. It is aired at 6:25 a.m., Mon.-Sat. on KDSN, FM107.1

Aug 31-Sept 5 Rev. Nathan Peitsch St. Paul's, Ute

Sept. 7-12	Rev. Mark Kluzek Faith, Deloit, St. John, Kiron
Sept. 14-19	Rev. Josh Keinath Zion, Denison
Sept. 21-26	Rev. Merle Mahnken Immanuel, Schleswig
Sept. 28-Oct. 3	Rev. Chad Trunkhill Bethlehem/Our Savior, Denison

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.

On November 15, Pastor will be on Main Street Living.

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

FROM STEWARDSHIP:

Joyful Response[®]

St. Paul's Council has chosen to make use of the Lutheran Church Extension Fund's Electronic Giving Service, "Joyful Response". This is a free service offered to LCMS congregations to simplify financial stewardship and make it more efficient and predictable. It can save on the cost of personal checks and help to make the counting and depositing of the service offerings easier.

The church, our church, is a group of faithful stewards. We manage what God has given us for HIS purposes, including our lives, our time, our resources, our financial blessings, our relationships and our intellects. The offering we give to God is not rooted in attendance, but in sacrifice. We want to give back to God because of all that he has given us; our worldly goods and especially salvation through his son, Jesus Christ.

Joyful Response is just one way that allows our members and others to make a one-time monetary gift to St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Ute or to make recurring contributions that can be changed or suspended at any time. Offerings can be directly debited out of a checking or savings account for free, however there will be a small fee for using a debit or credit card or text giving. Stewardship sees Joyful Response as another option for members to support our church, a convenient way for members who are absent or for non-members to give. To use Joyful Response, go to St. Paul's website, stpaulsute.org and click on the tab "Gift Giving". You have to sign up for an account before you're able to make use of this method of donation. After your account is created, the site is very easy to navigate.

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.

NEWSLETTER SPONSORS

Thank you to Ronnie Kroll for sponsoring the newsletter this month.

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



**St Paul Lutheran Church
Ute, Iowa**

-Gift of Grain-

from

(Donor name)

(Donor address)

(City, State, Zip)

Amount of Grain: _____

Type of Grain: _____

I wish to transfer above quantity of grain to:

**St Paul Lutheran Church
303 E 4th Street
P.O. Box 139
Ute, Iowa, 51060-8061**

(Signature)

Date _____ / _____ / _____

Attention Grain Elevator operator(s):

Please deposit said grain quantities listed above into an account at your elevator entitled St Paul Lutheran Church (listed above) and contact their representative at 712-885-2221 office for instructions as to grain disposition.

Please send this form along with the payment/appropriate documentation of sale to address listed above.

If you have any further questions, or need for additional instructions, please call St Paul Lutheran Church at 712-885-2221 for further instructions.

My (Household's) Pledge Plan for 2021:

I plan to give the following amount in support of God's mission at St. Paul's:

\$ _____ per week

Or

\$ _____ per month

**Please return top
portion to the church.**

My (Household's) Pledge Plan for 2021:

I plan to give the following amount in support of God's mission at St. Paul's:

\$ _____ per week

Or

\$ _____ per month

**Please detach and
keep as a visible
reminder of your plan.**

St. Paul's Mission Statement:

Be faithfully obedient to the living Christ in making disciples of all people.

My (In kind) Pledge Plan for 2021:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Be on the Prayer Chain. | <input type="checkbox"/> Be on the Flower Committee. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Be on Pastor's driver list. | <input type="checkbox"/> Be a funeral usher. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Be on a committee for lawn mowing. | <input type="checkbox"/> Help trustees with projects. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Be on a committee for snow removal. | <input type="checkbox"/> Be a Sunday School teacher or helper. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Be on a committee for cleaning church. | <input type="checkbox"/> Be on the Care Committee. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Be on the Altar Committee. | |

Name: _____

Phone No. _____

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- | | |
|---|--|
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