



THE PROCLAIMER

October 2022

The mission of St. Paul Lutheran Church is to hear, share, and proclaim the Word of God.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

"...There was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb...."
Revelation 7: 9-10 (NRSV)

Dear friends in Christ,

In my birth state of Pennsylvania, families who were historically of German background in the early colonial years of our country were called "Pennsylvania Dutch" by the British settlers. They called them this not because they spoke the Dutch language of Holland but because when English-speaking persons from Great Britain heard them say they spoke "Deutsch" (which means "German" and is pronounced "Doytch") the English speakers thought they were saying that they spoke Dutch!

That is kind of a funny lingual mistake which has become an accepted name for families with German last names in Pennsylvania – thus I am "Pennsylvania Dutch" even though virtually none of my ancestors came from Holland. Some of my ancestors were from Germany, others were from the British Isles. There is even a family legend that my mother's dad's family tree (mostly from southern states going back to the 1600s & 1700s) may have even included a Native American ancestor somewhere along the way – but we have not done enough research to be sure.

In 2022, all of us know that now we can get DNA tests done through online companies which supposedly can tell us our ethnic and racial makeups and lead us to who our ancestors were. While some of these companies are rated as more reputable and accurate than others, many people are widely using their services. Perhaps you or someone in your family have already done so. While this new type of DNA research is quite interesting, I just wonder if sometimes people may learn things which complicate their lives. Perhaps someone in the family who you always thought was a blood relative was actually adopted into the family; what makes the difference really? Or someone was in prison at some point in history; does it much matter now?

Or someone has a sister or brother somewhere they did not know about; does knowing that make either sibling's life now better or worse?

Personally, I may or may not do one of those DNA tests. If I do so, I hope, by the grace of God, to accept the results knowing that names and information about my ancestors do not determine my status as a child of God and as a member of Christ's family.

This year we have celebrated the 150th anniversary of our St. Paul congregation. The original DNA of this body of Christ in 1872 was of German immigrants who were led here to start new lives. Since then the DNA of our country has changed and become much more diverse, even in our small town of Mason. Hardly anyone knows much German any longer. Some do not even like sauerkraut! **Now** is the time for **new outreach** for us. **Now** is the time to **invite and welcome** people of **all** backgrounds and cultures into our congregation.

Our holy baptism into Christ Jesus tells us who we are: children of God --- saved, redeemed, and nurtured by God's grace. We are cleansed and made new in the waters of baptism. As we live and grow in Christ's church, we are continually nurtured and nourished together in God's word and the holy meal. The bread, together with God's promise and our faith in that promise, is the real presence of God's DNA, of our Lord's life and body, given for us. The wine, together with Jesus' words and our faith in his words, is also the real presence of God's DNA for us, as we receive the blood of Christ which courses through our bodies and makes us all one in the Lord! In the inspiring words of a great hymn of the church,

***You are the family of God. You are the promise divine.
You are God's chosen desire, you are the
glorious new wine.
Bind us together, Lord, bind us together with cords that
cannot be broken. Bind us together, Lord, bind us
together, Lord; bind us together in love.***

*Grace & Peace in Christ,
Pastor Fred Krebs*

JAM SERVICE IN THE PARK

The St. Paul Lutheran Church Evangelism Committee is hosting the fall *Jam Service in the Park*, on **Sunday, October 30**, beginning at **10:45 A.M.** The musical service in the park has been a positive and uplifting community outreach event. The service will be live-streamed on the St Paul Lutheran Facebook page.

Bring a lawn chair or blanket for sitting on the grass, and beginning at 10:45 A.M., Pastor Krebs will lead us through the order of service, with Justin and Heather McFarland leading the music. Immediately after the jam service, the annual **Mexican Pile-on Luncheon** will be held in the Fellowship Hall.

The parking spaces along the cable separating the parking lot from the playground will be reserved for those who would like to attend the service from the comfort of their vehicle. The Evangelism Committee is looking forward to your attendance at the **10:45 A.M. Jam Service in the Park on Sunday, October 30.**



MEXICAN PILE-ON LUNCHEON

The Mexican Pile-on Luncheon will immediately follow the Jam Service in the Park on Sunday, October 30. Funds from the luncheon will go

toward the installation of WIFI in the Fellowship Hall and Sunday School Building. A sign-up sheet has been placed on the table in the narthex for donations of food for the Pile-on. LeEster Burch and the confirmation parents & students will help set-up & decorate. Thank you for helping us make this event a success!

CHRISTMAS LUMINARY NEWS

The 2022 Journey to Bethlehem Drive-Thru Christmas Luminary is scheduled to be held December 11.

The location is Fort Mason City Park, and the time is 6:30 PM- 7:30 PM. More details will be shared as they become available. Admission is free.

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

- Designated funds from the Mexican Pile-On Luncheon towards WIFI installation in the Fellowship Hall and Sunday School Building. The Jam Service in the Park and the Mexican Pile-On Luncheon will be held on October 30th, beginning at 10:45. LeEster Burch and the confirmation parents & students will help set-up & decorate.
- Approved building usage for the Mason Scout Troop contingent upon availability.
- Approved the purchase of two AED Devices for the property utilizing the generous donation from the Krienke Family.
- Council Meeting day changed to the third Monday at 6:00 PM.
- Thank you to everyone who helped with the 150th Celebration Service and Fish Fry Luncheon. It was a wonderful time of remembrance and blessing!
- Preparation for the 2023 Ministry Plan will begin in October and budget requests will be due to turn into the Stewardship Committee by October 13.

MASON MINISTERIAL ALLIANCE CYCLE OF PRAYER

The Mason Ministerial Alliance is asking congregations and faith-based organizations to pray for each other during the year, on a rotating basis monthly. For October 2022, we are all asked to pray focused prayers for River of Life Church.

ST. PAUL CELEBRATES OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

3	Tallon Eckert
4	Bobby Capps
5	Dreu Bearden
6	T McIntosh
10	Raina Todd
12	Brooke Stockbridge
13	Reubin Ake Mac Reichenau
14	Justin Yonker
15	June Durst Denver Stockbridge
18	Jenna Jacoby Hudson Terrell
20	Geraldine Geistweidt
21	Sue Stockbridge
22	Connie Smith
23	Jaxson Reichenau
24	Ron Birk
26	Amy Capps Baylee Owen Walt Reichenau
27	Janette Tomlinson
30	Sherry Ake

If your birthday or a family member's birthday is not listed or is listed incorrectly, please let Deb Probst know @ 325-597-2832 or dcpobst@hotmail.com. Thank you for helping us with this project.

PREPARING FOR THE 2023 MINISTRY PLAN

It is time for all Standing Committees to prepare budget requests for the coming year. The Stewardship Committee will begin work on the 2023 Ministry Plan at a meeting on Monday, October 17. Committees should submit their budget requests to the Church Office or Del Roy Reichenau, Stewardship Chair, by no later than Thursday, October 13. The 2023 Ministry Plan will be submitted to the Congregation Council at their November meeting.

THANKSGIVING TURKEY DRIVE

Our Methodist brothers and sisters in Christ are planning their annual Thanksgiving turkey and fixings distribution and are looking for our support again this year. A turkey with all the trimmings will be distributed on Saturday, November 19 at the First United Methodist Church parking lot. If you know of a family in need, a form will need to be filled out in advance. Contact Judy Lehmborg at 347-2409 for more information. A list of needed items will be included in the November Proclaimer.

Evangelism Committee

FOR EVERY SEASON, THERE IS A REASON...

One of the special blessings for me as a Lutheran, is the consistency of church seasons and with each one, the addition of beautiful and meaningful elements of worship that allow each of us to grow closer to the Good News in Christ. As we prepare to enter fall and continue on in the growing season of Pentecost, I sit in awe of God's goodness to us as His people. As you know I love to write so I want to share a rhyme I wrote for the children. **Round and round, the seasons go. Summer comes, hot and slow.** In church seasons, the rhyme sounds like this **Round and round, church seasons go. Pentecost is here...I need to grow!** I don't think any of us were prepared for the brutal heat of summer, but God is in control, so I will add a new summer verse. **Round and Round, the seasons go. God sent August rains, He provides what we need, we love Him so.** As we prepare for a new season in our daily and worship lives, let's not forget the barren land in July and how God had mercy on us and turned the barren, brown, and dusty land to beautiful green with His gift of rain for us. Thanks be to God!

Last Sunday was Rally Day and the kids and Justin provided us with a truly inspiring message. We are in a new Sunday School year. With lessons from the past, **Let us move forward into a new season with hearts burning to love, learn, and serve in a powerful way!** We know from scripture that God called Moses at the BURNING BUSH to rescue His people and God is calling us to take HIS message everywhere we go. Rally Day means that some of us change Sunday School classes. We will miss Anden, Kylie, Kinley, and Kinsley as they move into Miss LeEster's Sunday School Confirmation class after finishing First Communion Classes with Pastor Fred. A great addition to our Sunday School program will be a newly organized High School Class meeting in the Youth Room in the Office Building on the first and third Sundays of each month with Kathy Krebs. The class begins at 9:45 and they will be using the video "THE CHOSEN". When Mrs. Krebs is away in October, Merlina Gamel will teach this class. Let's pray about the blessing this class will be in the life of our High School kids that participate.

Junior Lutherans and Children's Church are available once a month as is a Youth Group gathering for older students. Junior Lutherans will be for grades 1 through 6 and will meet on a Wednesday at 4p.m. We will be letting you know what Wednesday will work best with the leader's schedules. Leaders are Kathy Krebs and Ann Mahnken. You will be notified monthly of the Older Youth Group events.

Through all of these events, God is calling us to be MORE ACTIVE at Sunday School, Church, and other youth activities. Let's close by thinking of the hymn, "Listen, God is Calling". In the chorus, we find that God is calling to us, inviting us through the Word, and offering to us forgiveness, comfort, and joy! What more could a believer want. In this beautiful hymn found on page 513 of our cranberry hymnal, Jesus gave us the mandate to share the Good News that He came to save us and set us free. He reminds us that

none should be forgotten and that we should bring others to be baptized. And the last thing we are reminded of in this hymn is the same thing we remember every Rally Day: **to remain faithful, to stand steadfast, to walk in God's precepts, and at all times to be led by God's Word.**

**Round and Round, church seasons go,
in each and every one, closer to OUR LORD
we will go grow.**

Answer God's call; LET US come and be a part of His Church!

In Christ's Love, Ann Mahnken

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR AUGUST

Congregational Giving: \$37,517.46

Expenditures: \$22,392.24

**STEWARDSHIP DIRECTORY
FOR OCTOBER**

Lay Reader: Lynn Reichenau

Communion Assistants: Deb Probst & Del Roy Reichenau

Council Rep. on Duty: Josh Brooks

Bell Ringers: Mark Lehmborg & Mike Goff

Speaker System: Bob Vacek and Mark Lehmborg

Ushers: Mike Parrish, Youth,

Carolyn Loeffler, and Bert Mahnken

Property Person on Duty: Gayland Thorn

Acolytes:

(10/2) Hudson Terrell

(10/9) Noah Sparks

(10/16) Camille Schmidt

(10/23) Reece Evans

(10/30) All Confirmands for Jam Service

Women's Bible Study:

Morning Bible Study (10:00 AM)

(First Wed. of Month) in the Fellowship Hall

Bible Study Leader: Cynthia Bauer

Hostess: Janette Tomlinson

Evening Bible Study (5 PM – Third Tues. of

Month) in the Fellowship Hall

Altar Guild:

Flower Chairman: Nancy Brown

Parament Chairman: Debbie Nebgen

Communion Chairman: Sherry Schmidt

Memorials: Church Office 347-5582

We wish to thank those who have so graciously contributed their time and talents toward the ministry of St. Paul Lutheran Church.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Rev. Fred Krebs

Pastor

Mrs. Heather McFarland

Church Administrator

Mrs. Ann Mahnken

Youth Coordinator

Church Office Hours:

Mon.-Thurs. 8:30 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.

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