



THE PROCLAIMER

November 2022

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

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

“Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. He prostrated himself at Jesus’ feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan.”

Luke 17: 15 & 16 (NRSV)

Dear friends in Christ,

Many years ago, I read a story about a white man who was invited out to lunch with a Native American man who was highly thought of in their western town. They met at the restaurant in the local hotel and ordered their meals.

Immediately when the meal was brought to the table, the white man dug into his food voraciously. The Native American man briefly bowed his head to give thanks and reverence to God before eating. He then said, with the accent of his Native American language, “Do you know what a man reminds me of who sits down at the table in front of his meal and shows no thanks or reverence to the Creator?”

“No,” said the other man quite abruptly, as he was surprised by the question. “Tell me.”

“Well,” said his Native American friend, “when someone sits down at the table and begins to eat his meal without giving thanks for how it came to him, it reminds me a lot of a herd of hogs eating nuts under a tree who do not even look up to see the tree and branches from where the nuts dropped to the ground.”

How about us? Do we remember to say thanks before a meal in our homes with our family members or even if we are eating alone? Do we pause and at least give reverence to God before we voraciously dig into a meal when we eat out at a restaurant? Do we lift our hearts to give thanks to the “Tree of Life” from which all good gifts come?

The most common historic recollection of a Thanksgiving celebration by English settlers in our United States is a meal which is said to have been celebrated for three days in Plymouth, Massachusetts, in 1621, by as many as 90 Wampanoag Native Americans and just 53 English pilgrims who survived their journey in the Mayflower and the devastating winter of

1620-1621. Fortunately, the harvest of 1621 was plentiful for both the new settlers and the Native Americans, and so they took time to give thanks to God together!

After our country was formed, President George Washington proclaimed a National Day of Thanksgiving in 1789, and it was celebrated on and off over the next number of years, but no official continuing date was set. Thanksgiving celebrations were held intermittently, but with no great consistency, until President Abraham Lincoln, in 1863, proclaimed a national day of “Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens...with humble penitence for our national perverseness and disobedience...” to “fervently implore the interposition of the Almighty hand to heal the wounds of the nation...” (wikipedia.org) Lincoln’s declaration suggested that Thanksgiving be celebrated the last Thursday in November. This custom continued until 1939, when President Franklin D. Roosevelt moved the date to one week earlier, and his declaration gained ground, as it helped to lift the U.S. economy out of the Great Depression by allowing more business days between Thanksgiving and Christmas. In 1942, the U.S. Congress officially declared that from November of 1942 forward, our U.S. Thanksgiving would always be celebrated on the fourth Thursday in November.

As I write this letter, we are thankful for recent rains in late October. On November 6, we will celebrate the 1st Holy Communion of four 7th graders: Kinsley Atchison, Anden King, Kylie Sparks, and Kinley Wenzel. We will close the church year with Thanksgiving to God on Christ the King Sunday, November 20. As always, we join with the community collection of items for Thanksgiving dinners for all our neighbors. We will gather around our tables with friends and family members on November 24, to express our thanks to God and to pray for peace on earth as we prepare to enter the Advent season on Sunday, November 27. THANKS BE TO GOD!

Grace & Peace in Christ,

Pastor Fred Krebs

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY NOV. 6

On All Saints Sunday, November 6, as we come forward to receive Holy Communion, a member of our congregation will read aloud the names of loved ones who have joined the Church Triumphant! You will be invited to share names of your loved ones who have died in the faith so their names may be read.

ST. PAUL CELEBRATES NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

3	Garrett Allen Chel Terrell
4	David Bartlett Kim Hengst Gwen Stockbridge Lisa Atchison
5	Cason Jacoby
9	Roddie Stockbridge
11	Kenley Stockbridge Priscilla Martin
14	Rodee Brooks Knox Wenzel Stone Wenzel
18	Grant Nobles
19	Rylee Owen
20	Jo Ann Lindemann
21	Nancy Brown Sue Stockbridge
22	Linda Geistweidt
24	Angela Gammill Chance Stockbridge
25	Luke Gillespie
26	Jimie Langehennig Krystal Eckert
27	Kay Yonker
28	Tanner Reichenau Reegan Evans
30	Judy Lehmberg Dan Barton

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 dcprobst@hotmail.com. Thank you for helping us with this project.

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

- Blue Ribbon Service Day was scheduled for Wednesday, Nov. 2. Purchase of needed supplies were approved.
- Insurance plan for the Pastor was approved.
- Nomination Committee will begin work obtaining nominations for the 2023 Church Council.
- History Book printing was approved.

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 November 2022, we are all asked to pray focused prayers for Church at the Camp.

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 at the First United Methodist Church. If you know of a family in need, a form will need to be filled out in advance, contact Judy Lehmberg at 347-2409.

We can participate in this worthy endeavor by providing the items listed below and leaving at the fellowship hall on or before November 16. Please bring the items in a box. The Methodist will provide the turkeys once again. **LET US MAKE A GOAL TO PROVIDE 15 BOXES OR MORE THIS YEAR!**

- 1 - Aluminum Roasting Pan for the turkey
- 1 - Roll aluminum foil
- 5 - Pound bag of potatoes
- 2 - Cans green beans
- 2 - Cans of whole corn
- 1 - Can cranberry sauce
- 1 - Package brownie mix
- 2 - fresh onions
- 2 - Packages cornbread mix or stuffing
- 2 - Cans of sweet potato or yams
- 2 - 15oz cans chicken broth or 1- 32oz box

Please do not place items in the pan, but all in a box. Leave at St Paul Fellowship Hall on or before November 16. We will then deliver to the Methodist Church.

Evangelism Committee



LUMINARY NEWS

The Luminary is set for December 11th at Fort Mason City Park from 6:30-7:30 PM. Admission is free.

Any assistance is always greatly appreciated. Please make plans to attend this lovely event.

Thanks be to God! Thank you!

Respectfully submitted by the
Luminary Publicity Committee

FANTASTIC GIFTS OF FALL-GIFTS OF LOVE

As I sit writing this article, after a night of rain, a lovely fall morning, and a day of cooler temperatures, I give thanks for the season of fall! Not only do I look forward to the seasonal change, but I look forward to the themes of unity, gathering, love, family, and fellowship which are truly basic needs to all human beings. This week will be filled with gatherings for me: Jr. Lutherans, Confirmation, Football games, Youth Group, Sunday School, and Church...just to name a few. Thinking about the good times of the week, I find myself singing, "Bind Us Together, Lord". Verse 3 speaks to me:

You are The Family of God,
 You are the Promise Divine;
 You are God's Chosen Desire,
 You are the Glorious New Wine.

And then the powerful themes of the chorus: Bind Us Together, Lord (a prayerful request for His people); With Cords That Cannot Be Broken (a strong bond that holds fast); Bind Us Together In Love (Love is the GLUE). After sitting and singing this special hymn, I look forward to the many and varied fantastic gifts of fall. Let's go into November with thankful hearts, recognizing that St. Paul is a **church family**, and every time we gather is a time to give thanks for. Tonight I have choir practice; a time to learn songs that lift my spirit and the spirits of others; tomorrow I have Bible study; a time to gather with sisters in Christ to ponder the majesty and mystery of God's precious word; Wednesday I have a full day: Jr. Lutherans; a time where Kathy and I will help the children get ready for a parade of their favorite Bible characters; and immediately following, Confirmation; where I join Pastor and 11 special young people to continue our study of the age-old law, the Ten Commandments and receive them as God's Direction for our daily lives.

What if, all of us, look at our daily schedules through the lense of heavenly opportunity and kingdom building instead of things we HAVE to do? What if, The Family of God, looked at Sunday School and Church attendance as fuel for our tanks rather than a place where we hear the same old lesson or somewhere we need to show up occasionally? What if, we approach the season of fall and Thanksgiving as a Family Bound Together through Cords of Love that cannot be Broken?

We, The Family of God at St. Paul, have much to be thankful for:

Pastor Fred & Kathy; Our staff: Heather, Mary Lou, & Dreu; Our Church Council, Our hard-working committees; and each and every person (God's Chosen Desire) that we encounter.

We thank you, sweet Lord, for the children that make us smile, the youth that teach us so much, the

teachers that spread the Good News, the musicians that give us another way to receive your word...**Each and every person who follows the path of love and service.** We pray for you to show us ways to reach out to those in need.

Let me end this time of reflection with a poem;

Heavenly Father,
 The days wind down in 2022....
 times to Worship, Work, Fellowship, Serve, and
 Learn About You!
 Please bind us together in your Amazing Love,
 the Gift of Grace sent from Above.
 And when temptation comes our way,
 strengthen our bonds and help us stay
 on the path planned by you
 showing love in all that we do!

In Christ's Love, Ann Mahnken

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER

Congregational Giving: \$ 12,767.00
 Expenditures: \$ 20,493.95

STEWARDSHIP DIRECTORY
FOR NOVEMBER

Lay Reader: Ron Birk
Communion Assistants: Harold Albers and
 Carolyn Loeffler
Council Rep. on Duty: Rex Smith
Bell Ringer: Mark Lehmborg & Mike Goff
Speaker System: Bob Vacek and Mark Lehmborg
Property Person on Duty: Walt Reichenau

Acolytes:
 (11/6)
 (11/13)
 (11/20) Noah Sparks
 (11/27)

Women's Bible Study:
Morning Bible Study (10:00 AM)
(First Wed. of Month) in the Fellowship Hall
Bible Study Leader: Kathy Krebs
Evening Bible Study (5 PM – Nov. 29th) in the Fellowship Hall

Altar Guild:
 Flower Chairman: Paulette Keller
 Parament Chairman: Kassi Reichenau
 Communion Chairman: Helen Habecker

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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