



# ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH “LOVELETTER”

**Share God’s Love; Serve all People**

329 East State Street, Mason City, IA 50401

641-423-7749

**OFFICE HOURS: Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.**

November 2021

October 31<sup>st</sup> is primarily recognized for being Halloween. It is a time when young people dress up in costumes and go trick or treating in their neighborhoods. Many of us remember costumes worn by our children and now our grandchildren. However, for the people of St. Paul and Our Saviour’s October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021 will have a much more significant and important memory. It was the day that both churches voted to reach an agreement to possibly jointly call a pastor to serve both congregations. This agreement is only the first step in the process. It was indeed a day to not only remember but also to rejoice because it represents a new chapter in the ministry for both churches.

Nearly all churches regardless of denomination are facing many of the same challenges with declining membership and attendance. This dilemma affects not only churches but almost all service organizations. It appears there is a generation of people where neither church nor service to others is as important as it is to many of us. We can lament the reality and sadness of this situation but there is little value in that. I miss shopping at Younkers and JC Penny but they are gone forever. These two churches are a long way from being gone forever. In fact, there is much more to celebrate and value what both churches do than to worry about what they don’t.

St. Paul and Our Saviour’s began sharing services almost two years ago in one way or another. What became obvious was that both congregations were similar and benefited from sharing some things but yet maintaining their own churches and identity. In simple terms the people of both churches liked each other and the decision to end the sharing arrangement was never made by the people. This two-church parish will be much different from the previous sharing arrangement, but yet will be able to maintain the benefits we enjoyed from it before. This time a call committee will jointly decide what is most important in a minister and that will be determined by both churches. That is an important distinction. This new minister will serve both churches equally. Although leading worship will be important, there is so much more this shared minister will be required to do. Both churches voting to reach an agreement is only the first step. That agreement will be brought before the whole congregation for a separate vote at a later date relatively soon.

As this column is written so much is unknown about this new two-church parish, but the process has begun and we should celebrate that. It will not be a quick nor an easy process but the thought and eventual reality of having a minister to serve both churches is indeed a reason to celebrate.

Ron Lundblad, President of St. Paul Church Council

Mike Olson, President of Our Saviour’s Council

**ST. PAUL COUNCIL MINUTES - October 14, 2021**

Thank you notes from NIACC and Salvation Army.

**Attendance:** The following council persons were in attendance: Ron Lundblad, Diane Murphy, Lavern Dahl, Sue Aves, Beth Rozen, and Lori Cornick-Angell.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Diane reported expenses are pretty much normal. Payroll taxes were due on their quarterly rotation. Ron took money from the investments on October 6 to help pay expenses. To date \$30,000.00 has been withdrawn for the year.

There was an accounting issue with regards to the WELCA and their VA donation. Their 2020 check was never cashed and was causing an issue with the accounting of the checking account. This has been corrected and replacement sheets for the budget were provided by Diane.

**ROOF GRANT:** Worth County Development Authority has until November 15<sup>th</sup> to announce the recipients of the grant we had applied for with regards to the roof. If we receive the grant, we have a year to complete the project. Plans are to repair the roof whether the grant is approved or not.

**COVID:** Discussion was held with regards to the sign regarding wearing a mask and the wording of it. Unvaccinated people are encouraged to wear a mask in church. No changes with the church or services at this time due to Covid.

**MONTHLY BENEVOLENCE:** Motion was made by Beth for the donation this month to go to the Veterans. This will be in gift cards to a grocery store. This Motion was seconded by Sue Aves and council all in favor.

**COUNCIL MEMBER OF THE MONTH:** Just a friendly reminder that if you are the council member of the month that you can take the offering up during the church service. Beth is the council member for October.

**ALL SAINTS SUNDAY:** November 7, 2021, is All Saints Sunday. There will be recognition of anyone who passed away in 2021.

**CHURCH TIME:** Sue Aves discussed having church service changed to a later time. Discussion was held and Beth made a motion to change the start time to 9:30 beginning in November. This will be through March unless further notice. One reason is winter driving conditions and also that many of the supply pastors are from out of town. Sue Aves seconded the motion and council all voted in favor.

**FALL CLEAN UP DAY:** Discussion regarding a date and time for a fall clean up. Sue recommended that it be on a Saturday to have more people help. Beth Rozen has a mower and bagger which may be available. The majority of the leaves have not yet fallen and more information will be available as to a date.

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING:** There will be a congregational vote on October 31, 2021 at both St. Paul and Our Saviour's about contacting the Northeastern Iowa Synod about establishing a shared ministry with a pastor who would serve both churches as a two-church parish. St. Paul will need to have at least 25 members at this meeting. A letter was mailed to all members about this issue and it is important that people attend.

St. Paul has supply pastors determined through November. Further discussions with Our Saviour's will be tabled until after the vote on October 31, 2021 but supply pastors will continue to be used at both churches regardless of the vote because Pastor Muters last Sunday is October 17<sup>th</sup>.

**COFFEE HOUR:** St. Paul will continue to have coffee hour after the church service. There is a sign-up sheet in the fellowship hall.

**COMMUNITY KITCHEN:** There is a sign-up sheet in the fellowship hall for this also.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Beth will continue to look into NIACC for some musicians to perhaps to add to our church services. Staff at NIACC has stated that we are free to place posters at NIACC that students are welcome to attend services at St. Paul.

Further discussion was had with regards to finding businesses or organizations to rent portions of the church and also to check into LSI as to their use of the church. Along with this, discussion was held to continue our clean-up efforts in various rooms at the church. This will be done as time and workers are available.

The rooms/closets that have been cleaned and organized so far look very nice. Thank you to everyone who has helped with this so far.

There will be a Fall potluck for everyone organized by WELCA on November 10 at 5:30 p.m. Beth is going to change the glass from the cloudy plexi glass to new glass. Rozen family will be donating this to the church.

Motion by Diane to have a prayer at the beginning of all council meetings and end with a prayer. Lori seconded and council all in favor.

Sue made a motion to adjourn, Beth second, council all in favor.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

**NEXT MEETING:** November 4 at 5:15 p.m.



Potluck

St. Paul will be holding a **Fall Church Potluck** on Wednesday, November 10th at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Following the potluck there will be a cornhole tournament with prizes awarded to the winning team.



*I've learned that even when I have pains, I don't have to be one.*

Maya Angelou

## WELCA NEWS

A fundraiser was held October 26th at Fat Hill Brewing for Crisis Intervention Services. Some organizations that support those services were asked to speak about what their organization does to help them and why. St. Paul WELCA was asked to speak about our Lily Bag project.

The evening began with a greeting and was followed by a very moving account from a courageous young woman about an assault she survived this year and how grateful she is to Crisis Intervention for their help. St. Paul was called on and Carlyn spoke about the WELCA Lily Bag project, how it came into being, why it is needed and how Crisis Intervention gave us advice in moving forward. At this time about 300 adult bags and 50 children's bags have been provided. Shelly followed telling about the bags contents, cost, fundraising and how we do it. She also thanked Diamond Jo, Thrivent, Walmart, many others and individuals for their very generous donations. Lily Bags and samples of our etched baking dishes were on display.

Retired Dr. James Coddington spoke about making beds for children that don't have one. He said 26 have been given out and that the women of First Methodist Church make all the bedding for them. They cost about \$200.00 each.

It was a well-attended event and we are all hoping it raised a lot of money!



Carlyn Schriver  
Michele Thenhaus



If you would like to celebrate a special occasion or memorial, please consider placing fresh flowers by the altar on Sunday morning. You can take the vase liners to your flower shop, and they can deliver them on Friday morning. Please let Valerie in the office know how you would like them noted in the bulletin. Questions? Give the office a call at 423-7749.

**Lectors**

- 7 Deb Stockberger
- 14 Ron Lundblad
- 21 Diane Murphy
- 28 Dennis Marsh

**Acolytes**

- 7 Pat Steinfort
- 14 Lori Angell
- 21 Deb Stockberger
- 28 Diane Murphy

**Coffee Hour:**

- 7 Ron & Becky Lundblad
- 14 Dennis & Nancy Marsh
- 21
- 28

**Council Person:**

Sue Aves/Lori Angell

**Altar Guild:**

Sue Aves/Lori Angell

**Financial Assistant:**

Lori Angell

**Community Kitchen:**

*3rd Thursday of each month*  
Thurs Nov. 18 @ 4:00

**Council Meeting:**

Thurs Nov. 4 @ 5:15

**M&Ms:**

Each Wednesday @ 9:30

**WELCA:**

Wed, Nov. 3 @ 9:30

**Worship & Music:**

Thurs. Nov. 4 @ Noon

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**Loveletter deadline: 24th**

**Bulletin deadline each**

**Wed. 12:00**

Sign up for or  
unsubscribe from our  
newsletter [HERE](#) or by  
calling the office  
641.423.7749.

**Happy November  
Birthday!**

- 11/02 Micah Stockberger
- 11/06 Jim Wallace
- 11/09 Sue Aves
- 11/10 Carol Rye
- 11/19 Liam Stockberger
- 11/26 Bryan Thenhaus
- 11/27 Ron Lundblad
- 11/29 Diane Murphy
- 11/30 Megan Slocum

*If we have missed you, please  
let us know.*




**Beginning in November we will change the worship time to 9:30. The main reasons are winter conditions and also the fact that many of the supply pastors are from out-of-town. November 7<sup>th</sup> will be the first Sunday with the new time. This weekend is also time to set our clocks back an hour.-Fall back!**




There is a sign up sheet in the Fellowship Hall for **coffee hour**. Please sign up for a Sunday so this fellowship can continue to be enjoyed!

St. Paul serves at **Community Kitchen every 3rd Thursday** starting at 4. In order to continue this ministry we need your help. Please consider lending a hand. If you work until 5 we can still use your help (just let us know). Please sign up on the clipboard in Fellowship Hall or call the church office 641-423-7749.



COMMUNITY KITCHEN

**It's important to pray for ALL our family & friends, so our list is rotated among our congregation.**

*Keep this in a convenient place for prayer time. If you don't have a daily prayer time, this might be a good time to begin.*

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. NE Iowa Synod  | 16. Tom & Patricia Wetter & family     |
| 2. St. Paul Lutheran Church                             | 17. Jim & Elaine Aberg & family        |
| 3. Evangelical Lutheran Church in America               | 18. Lori Angell & family               |
| 4. Our government, military leaders, troops & families  | 19. Michael Angell & family            |
| 5. All who suffer from illness, infirmity or loneliness | 20. Stephanie & Shaun Arneson & family |
| 6. Confined shut-ins (home, hospital, nursing home)     | 21. Susan Aves & family                |
| 7. Those who are dealing with losses in their lives     | 22. Jim & Jo Ellen Bailey & family     |
| 8. All who hunger and/or are homeless                   | 23. Don & Geri Barker & family         |
| 9. All who seek God; finding comfort, peace, renewal    | 24. Dane Birkholz & family             |
| 10. Micah & Jessica Stockberger & family                | 25. Brianna Stephens & family          |
| 11. Bryan & Michele Thenhaus & family                   | 26. Rhett Buffington & family          |
| 12. Bob & Heather Thompson & family                     | 27. Corrine Butler & family            |
| 13. Ken & Dawn Truka & family                           | 28. Karen Cornick & family             |
| 14. Jim & Chris Wallace & family                        | 29. Zell Cottrell & family             |
| 15. Karol Wallskog & family                             | 30. LaVern & Tanya Dahl & family       |
|   | 31. Roger & Beverly Ennis & family     |

### PRAYER CHAIN

Please call any Prayer Chain member below if you have a prayer request. All requests are kept confidential and you can share as much information as you are comfortable with. You may call any member and they will start the chain.

Prayer Chain members:

Gerri Barker 641-423-5525 (please do not leave message)

Anne Gannett 641-421-6852 (leave message)

Margaret Movick 641-201-1250 (leave message)

Diane Murphy 641-512-5851 (leave message)

Your name could be added here \_\_\_\_\_



### PRAYERS

Should you or a family member be admitted to the hospital and would like prayers/visits, list St. Paul on forms and request they call us. Also please contact Ron Lundblad at 641-420-9440 or the church office at 641-423-7749.

# November 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Website: <a href="http://www.stpaulmc.com">www.stpaulmc.com</a>            Facebook: <a href="https://facebook.com/Stpaulmc">facebook.com/Stpaulmc</a>            Office Hours: M—F 9-11            Email: <a href="mailto:secretary@stpaulmc.com">secretary@stpaulmc.com</a></p>	1	2 Office Hours: 8-10	3 9:30 M&M's WELCA Meeting	4 10 St. Paul Knitters 12 Worship Planning 5:15 Council Meeting 7 NA	5	6 8 NA
<p>7 Daylight Saving Time Ends            9:30 Worship/Communion            10:30 Fellowship</p>	8 9:30 Quilters	9	10 9:30 M&M's 5:30 Fall Church Potluck	11 10 St. Paul Knitters 7 NA	12	13 9:30 FH in Use 8 NA
<p>14            9:30 Worship            10:30 Fellowship            2:00 2/4 Stitchers</p>	15 9:30 Quilters	16	17 9:30 M & M's	18 9:30 WELCA Coffee OS 10 St Paul Knitters 4 Comm Kitchen 7 NA	19	20 8 NA
<p>21            9:30 Worship/Communion            10:30 Fellowship</p>	22 9:30 Quilters	23	24 9:30 M & M's Loveletter Deadline	25  Office Closed 7 NA	26 Office Closed	27 8 NA
<p>28            9:30 Worship            10:30 Fellowship            2:00 2/4 Stitchers</p>	29 9:30 Quilters	30				Office Phone: 641-423-7749

Puzzle 7 - **MEN AND WOMEN OF THE BIBLE**

P E M L E G R B S G H N I Y G E V E  
 H Y L A N O J Y I V A J S S A R A H  
 A A S I R E T G U M A L A I I D D R  
 R P N M Z T M K B Z H M C S A E D Y  
 A A D N Q A H L E J H Z S A Y B T M  
 O M G C A R B A X A O U L A Z O M A  
 H I O G H H I E P Y L N R C S R A R  
 V R K H H X Y D T E E X A U F A R Y  
 M I M R P H M A I H Z S S H F H Y E  
 R A J A C O B N N M Y E I E N Z M Q  
 U M L P V H A O I O J P K B A D A M  
 T T I A T D O N O S U F O I M W G A  
 H J C U C L E V E E A T J P E N D B  
 B P O L E H Q V H S V I Q F U L A R  
 V W C H P Q I A D Q Y U A E A A L A  
 E Z C E N J D P G W Q Y F H Z M E H  
 X A T I U U U M P E T E R F W O N A  
 R S L R J P R I S C I L L A W S E M

Abraham  
 Adam  
 Amos  
 Daniel  
 Deborah  
 Elizabeth  
 Eve  
 Ezekiel

Hannah  
 Isaac  
 Isaiah  
 Jacob  
 Jesus  
 John  
 Jonah  
 Judah

Malachi  
 Martha  
 Mary  
 Mary Magdalene  
 Miriam  
 Moses  
 Paul

Peter  
 Pharaoh  
 Priscilla  
 Rachel  
 Ruth  
 Sarah  
 Stephen

*"Life is not about how fast you run or how high you climb, but how well you bounce."*

Vivian Komori