



The Parish Twine

September, 2019

❖❖❖ St. John's Lutheran Church, St. Donatus, IA

❖❖❖ St. Paul's Lutheran Church, La Motte, IA



Pastor:

William J. Layton
(563) 249-6923

[pastorwill
@stjohnsandstpauls.org](mailto:pastorwill@stjohnsandstpauls.org)

Church Office:

(563) 773-2313
stjohnlutheran@netins.net

Marge:

(563) 872-4285
margefelderman@netins.net

Holy Communion:

1st, 3rd, & 5th Sun-
days of each month
plus major festivals

Sunday Worship

St. John's—8:30 a.m.
St. Paul's—10:00 a.m.

Sunday School

St. Paul's—9:00 a.m.
St. John's—9:30 a.m.

Women of ELCA

Bible Study

September 5, 1:00 p.m.

Cookout

For Wartburg Students
at St. John's
September 8, 5:00 p.m.

St. John's Council

September 9, 6:30 p.m.

Women's Fall Gathering

Saturday, Sept. 21
St. John Lutheran, Preston

St. Paul's Fundraiser

Saturday, Sept. 28
10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

From the Pastor's Desk:

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

September seems like a good time to talk about being church together. On Sunday, September 8th, our congregations will have the opportunity to participate in "God's Work, Our Hands" Sunday. That same day, churches throughout the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America will also be doing service projects. You can find more details on our specific project elsewhere in this newsletter. It's amazing to think of all the ways our church will be helping people around the country and around the world all at once! We can do big things when we work as the church together.

I saw an amazing example of that recently when the ELCA congregations of the greater Dubuque area came together to host a benefit at Wartburg Theological Seminary for Almost Home Guest House, a ministry of St. John's in Dubuque that works with homeless men. That event raised almost \$8,000, and after they added in gifts in kind of supplies, food, clothing, and other items, they figure that they received the equivalent of nearly \$10,000 in total! That's going to go a long way toward helping people in need get back on their feet, and our congregations got to be a part of it! Some of our members helped transport the stage for the band and get it set up at Wartburg. Even those of you who weren't able to be directly involved were still connected to that amazing work, since as your pastor, I was able to work with the other Dubuque-area pastors and take a (small) part in helping to put it together. Oh, and it's not too late to get involved, even though this year's benefit is over. Almost Home can always use volunteers, donations, and prayers! You can talk to me if you're interesting in connecting with Almost Home to volunteer or donate. And, in terms of things coming full-circle, it's worth mentioning that when St. John's was first getting started in the 1850s, we even briefly shared a pastor with St. John's Dubuque.

The whole church is better when we work together. Of course, these congregations know that as well as any! After 105 years of shared ministry, working together for the sake of the Gospel and for the sake of the world is part of our DNA, so to speak. Our theology shares that commitment, too. We can look as far back as the very early history of the old Iowa Synod, the church body that St. John's and St. Paul's were originally part of. One thing that set the Iowa Synod apart was the idea of "open questions," which basically means that we don't have to think exactly the same way about every single point of doctrine in order to still be Christ's church together and be in communion with one another. That's not to say that it doesn't matter what you believe, but it does mean that we can have disagreements without it being church-dividing. That idea of "open questions" was a huge gift that the Iowa Synod passed on to the ALC and then the ELCA. If you're very familiar with other Lutheran denominations, you'll understand that this idea of "open questions" is not appreciated as much by all Lutherans. It became a real sticking point between the Iowa Synod and the Missouri Synod in the 1870s, and you can still see a difference between the ELCA and the Missouri Synod when it comes to that sort of thing today.

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Council Notes

Worship Attendance:

	<u>St. John's</u>	<u>St. Paul's</u>
July 28	36	18
Aug. 4	33	18
Aug. 11	40	20
Aug. 11	61 Canticum Novum Choir Service	
Aug. 18		53 worship in the park
Aug. 25	35	19

Joint Council Meeting—August 12

Present: Mark Hueneke, Tracey Hueneke, Tom Decker, Gloria Heacock, Ruth Hingtgen, David Schroeder, Bruce Bormann, Marty Bormann, Vanessa Hueneke, Richard Bradley, Chad Uhlenhake, Lynn Sanders, Brianna Busch, Pastor Will.

Called to order by Mark Hueneke at 6:30 p.m.

Devotions led by Pastor Will.

Pastor's report was given and discussed.

- St. Paul's VBS was a successful fun-filled days with 35 children enjoying the activities.
- Comments on the Sunday night service with the Canticum Novum Choir. The music was wonderful.

Old Business: Tabling the Parish agreement for right now.

New Business: Paternity leave request from Pastor Will for December 8, 15, 22, and 29. He will preach for the 24th and 25th and return to work on the 5th of January. Motion carried to grant his request.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Next joint meeting November 4 at St. Paul's.

St. John's Council Meeting—August 12

Present: Mark Hueneke, Tracey Hueneke, David Schroeder, Tom Decker, Brianna Busch, Vanessa Hueneke, Pastor Will
Meeting called to order by Mark Hueneke at 7:15 p.m.

Reports:

- Treasurer: BSB: Mission Plus; Sabbatical \$1,620
- Memorial Treasurer: \$

Old Business:

- Carpet estimate is back from Steamatic and is tabled for right now.
- New light bulbs are in the front part of church. Going to try a warmer led.
- Wartburg cook out is September 8. There will be a sign-up sheet in the back of both churches for dish to pass.
- God's work, Our hands will be September 8 after church. School kits will be put together.

Next meeting is September 9.

Closed with the Lord's prayer.

St. Paul's Dedication

On Sunday, October 6th, Pastor Paul Ostrem, SEIA Synod assistant to the bishop, will be our guest at both worship services, and will lead the dedication of the new addition at St. Paul's during the 10:00 service.

Confirmation

Families of confirmation students are asked to meet with Pastor Will on Wednesday, September 4 at 7:30 p.m. at St. John's. Confirmation Class is scheduled for 7:30-8:30 p.m. on Wednesdays, beginning September 11.

Sunday School

St. John's begins September 8, 9:30 a.m. If you have questions or are interested in teaching or assisting please email lhueneker@yahoo.com. All are welcome, not just parents of Sunday School age kids.

St. Paul's will also begin on September 8 at 9:30 a.m.

God's Work, Our Hands

Katherine Toops has sewn backpacks for 50 school kits. We will purchase items to fill out the kits and pack the kits on Sunday, September 8, at 9:30 a.m. at St. John's with the Sunday School. Everyone is invited to help

Cookout

On Sunday, September 8, 5:00 p.m., at St. John's we'll host a cookout for Wartburg Seminary students as they begin their fall semester. Volunteers are needed to help with this event and provide food. Please sign up at the back of church if you are interested in helping or bringing food.

St. Paul's Fundraiser

Saturday, September 28

10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

La Motte Town Park Pavilion

Lunch (free-will Donation):
Turkey & Dressing Sandwiches
Sloppy Joes

Chips (variety), Bars/Cookies
Coffee/Hot Apple Cider/Hot Chocolate
Water/Lemonade

* Fall Harvest Items * Bake Sale *
* Crafts * Rummage Sale *

**Proceeds to be given to
Zwingle Recreation Center
(for handicap accessibility improvements)**

Women ^{of the} ELCA

September Bible Study

Thursday, September 5, 1:00 p.m.

Devotions: Joy Hueneke

Bible Study: Pastor Will

This fall, we will study selections of Old Testament poetry from Job, Psalms, Lamentations and Song of Solomon. Drawing from the experiences of these ancient writers, we will learn to look to God for help in stewarding our deep emotions, finding hope and grace along the way. The September study, "No Hard Feelings? The Angst of Anger," begins on p. 22 of *Gather*.

There will be sewing in the morning.

Remember: Nominations will be needed for the October meeting—president and treasurer. Please prayerfully consider when asked to serve.

Fall Cluster Gathering

Saturday, September 21

St. John Lutheran, Preston

Registration & Coffee 8:30-9:00 a.m.

Program begins at 9:00 a.m.; lunch at noon. Cost, \$6.50
Bible study will be led by Pastor Carina Schiltz; program is presented by Pam Bahr, "From Long Johns to Mission Quilts—Volunteering at the LWR Maryland Warehouse."

Offering cause—Lutheran World Relief Shipping Fund
Love gift—non-perishable items or \$\$ for Manna Center

Registration needed by September 15—sign up
at the back of church

Book Exchange Fair Trade

Bakeless Bake Sale

St. John's/St. Paul's Women of the ELCA will be holding our annual fund-raising event in October.
More information will be coming soon.

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In Our Prayers

Judy Ambrosy, Shirley Busch, Janice Felderman, Reese Felderman, Tom Harmon, Mary Kay Hobart, Richard Hueneke, Lorraine Knief, Rev. Duane Priebe, Denise Richardson, Abraham Saraka, Diane Wallace, Rita Wiegert.

Address Changes

Dianne Strickler
401½ S. Second Street
Bellevue, IA 52031

Jared, Jesse, Memphis and Hudson Hueneke
27945 C. 70
Hinton, IA 51024

Bellevue American Legion

Chicken & Beef Supper

Friday, September 20, 4:30-7:30 p.m.

Also serving: Mashed Potatoes, Gravy,
Vegetable, 2 Salads, Dinner Roll, Beverage
Adults, \$11.00; ages 12 & under, \$5.00

Carry-outs available.

Catered by Jeronimo's

September Birthdays

Sept. 1 — Adleigh Nicholson
Sept. 3 — Dale Reeg
Sept. 5 — Duane Tietjen
Sept. 6 — Josh Feller
Sept. 8 — Alyssa Busch
9 — Aveah Sainci
Sept. 10 — Chad Kohlenberg
Nora Koos
Harold Wiegert
Sept. 11 — Bill Giesemann
Sept. 12 — Joann Kasik
Sept. 18 — Alexis Felderman
Sept. 20 — Kinsley Felderman
John Giesemann
Sept. 21 — Sam Giere
Pastor Will Layton
Will Uhlenhake
Sept. 22 — Dominic Nicholson
Sept. 23 — Brian Gill
Scott Kasik
Megan Schmidt
Sept. 24 — Presly Kettmann
Sept. 27 — Richard Busch
Aubrey Busch
Nile Hueneke
Sept. 29 — Michael Toops

Anniversaries

Sept. 1 — Katie & Casey Steines
Sept. 4 — Ernie & Janice Felderman
Sept. 5 — Scott & Heather Schroeder
Sept. 6 — Eldon & Donna Busch
Sept. 12 — Gary & Bea Hansen
Sept. 13 — Bruce & Julie Bormann
Sept. 14 — Eric & Sami Pitts
Randy & Barbara Schoop
Sept. 17 — Charles & Shirley Soliday
Sept. 23 — Heath & Staci Felderman
Sept. 24 — David & Cathy Felderman

Please let us know of any errors or omissions.

“Open questions” can be a very helpful way of seeing things when it comes to being the church together. We are reminded that our unity comes from what Jesus has done for us, giving his life for our sake on the cross. Our true Christian unity comes from that Good News about God’s love for the world. When we place our ultimate trust in something so rock-solid, we don’t have to come to an agreement on every little detail before we respond to that Good News by working together for the sake of the world. We can help our neighbors and praise God together first, and after that we *might* have time to argue about church doctrine, or social issues, or even the dreaded subject of politics! And if we do find time to argue about such things, God help us! I mean, God help us remember that we are already one in Jesus Christ, and nothing can take that away from us!

In Christ,
Pastor Will Layton

St. Joseph’s Bellevue Parish Pork Roast

Sunday, September 1

Trinity Center (Multi-Purpose Room)

Serving meal 11:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Adults: \$10 Ages 5-10: \$5

Roast Pork German Potato Salad or Baked Potato

Baked Beans Cole Slaw Applesauce

Dessert Beverage

Polka Mass by Sieverding Band & friends-10:15 a.m.

Pork Sandwiches, Hot Dogs, Desserts, and Beverages
will be available 11:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

Silent auction: 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Live auction: 2:00-3:00 p.m.

Live music, refreshment tent, games
(country store in the MEC lobby; live auction, silent
auction & bingo will be in air-conditioned facilities.)

raffle drawing—6:00 p.m.

Take-outs available.

For deliveries, call 872-3234 by 2:00 p.m. Fri., Aug. 30.

EWALU 30th Annual Fall Festival & Quilt Auction

Saturday, September 21

All items for sale have been donated to Camp Ewalu from congregations and individuals from all over eastern Iowa (and beyond!), and all proceeds will go towards supporting the ministries of Ewalu.

9:00 a.m. - Activities Begin:

Country Store Concession Stand
Hayrides Quilt Review Live Music

11:00-11:30 a.m. - Devotional Service

12:00 noon - Lunch

1:00 p.m. - Quilt Auction Begins

What to Bring: Yourself, Family, Friends,
Neighbors, and More! A Lawn Chair (*for our Out-
door Worship Service and for During the Auction*) .

Questions: Contact Camp Ewalu's Office

Phone: 563-933-4700

Email: www.ewalu.org

Lutheran Social Services

Direct Support Professionals Week

Do you know someone who is a caregiver to a loved one? It is a role that is both demanding and meaningful. During September’s National Direct Support Professionals Week, we celebrate all the ways in which professional caregivers help children and adults achieve their goals and build meaningful lives.

One way LSI empowers Iowans is through our Services for People with Disabilities. From 24-hour support to occasional respite care, the LSI team lifts up Iowans with disabilities as they find the confidence and independence they need to thrive in their communities.

We thank you for your faithful support of LSI – you create so many new life-changing possibilities for children, adults, and families! If you would like to learn more about how you can support crucial programming like LSI’s Services for People with Disabilities, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI director of philanthropy and church relations, at Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org or 563-676-2065.

Hospice of Jackson County

On-going opportunities for Advance Directives and Grief Support are being offered at the Hospice office, 611 W. Quarry Street, Maquoketa. There is no charge for these services. Vicki Alden, a licensed Bereavement Counselor for Hospice, is available the first Thursday of each month, 5:00-7:00 p.m., to offer counselling and support. Kim Callahan, Hospice social worker, is available 5:00-8:00 p.m. the second Thursday of each month for education and assistance with Advance Directives, which include Living Wills and Durable Power of Attorney. You do not have to be receiving services from Hospice of Jackson County to attend any of these sessions. If you have any questions, contact Kim or Vicki at 563-652-0123.