



St. Paul News

The Newsletter of
St. Paul Lutheran Church
Ida Grove, Iowa

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November

2021

Saints: Past, Present, and Future By Pastor Neil Wehmas

In the year 36 AD, the young man named Stephen stood before the Jewish Sanhedrin. He was charged with the crime of blasphemy and sinning against Moses. They gave him a chance to admit to his guilt. Instead he confessed and declared that Jesus was the Christ. He condemned the Jewish leaders for rejecting the Holy Spirit. It is for this reason, that Stephen was stoned to death. (see Acts chapter's 6-7)

Stephen was the first Christian to die for the faith, but he wouldn't be the last. All of the Apostles except for John were executed, confessing that Jesus rose from the dead, that he is the Christ. After the persecutions under Nero, the death of saints such as Ignatius and Polycarp, the church realized the need to remember those who had died for the faith.

It was in the early 2nd century, that the church began this very celebration. Originally it was on the Friday following Easter. The idea behind this is that it served as a reminder to Christians that the martyrs imitate Christ, by dying confessing His name, just as he died to redeem them. It followed Easter as a reminder that in death there is hope of the resurrection.

The celebration would move around through the years, until 798 AD, it was moved to November 1st where it is celebrated to this day. Originally, this holy day was meant for the celebration for all Christian martyrs. A celebration that never ceases to be needed.

We remember the saints for their boldness of faith. That they would not reject Christ even in the face of death. Martyrdom has existed in virtually every era of the church. In the 20th Century, more Christians died for the faith than all over centuries combined. Even to this day in countries such as North Korea, Afghanistan, Somalia, Libya, Pakistan, and many others, Christians are executed every single day. Current estimates have it that 13 Christians die every day for their faith. In 128 countries around the world, Christians have experienced some form of persecution.

So on November 1st and the weekend of November 7th (when we meet for worship) we remember the martyrs of past and present. We give thanks to God for their witness, and we pray that we may have faith that is as bold as theirs.

During the course of history, it was realized that a day was needed to remember all Christians who have died in the faith. In some traditions, this took the form of "The Day of the Dead". In the Lutheran tradition it has been absorbed into All Saints Day. As I write this, 14 dear members of our congregation have died since November 1st, 2020.

So, on the Sunday on or after November 1st, every year we remember these people. We give thanks to God for their lives. We give thanks that God had granted them faith. We give thanks that they dwell among the host arrayed in white, and stand before the throne. We give thanks that they are part of the multitude described in Revelation 7. Each name spoken is followed by the ringing of the bell, this is done to allow us to think upon the names of these dear people who we miss, and we look forward to seeing again. Finally, our prayer is that God would also keep us steadfast in the same true faith unto death, that we may receive and rejoice in the crown of life.

There are so many who have gone before us that I miss. So many faces in this congregation and in my own life that I miss. So, I cannot wait until that day:

"But, lo, there breaks a yet more glorious day;

The saints triumphant rise in bright array;

The King of Glory passes on His way.

Alleluia! Alleluia!" (LSB 677 "For All the Saints" v. 7)

Until that day to our God be all praise, honor and glory. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE for ANY ITEMS for in the **December Newsletter by November 10.**

Remember it's up to you or your family members to let the church office know if you are hospitalized.

CHURCH NEWS

OFFICIAL ACTS Funeral: Doyle Brown Confirmations: Frank Collins, Kyle Groves, Brent Rohlk

VOTERS MEETING Sunday, November 14th at 10:10 AM. Items on the agenda include Budget for 2022, Constitutional Amendment and Education Building Heating/cooling repair.

ADVENT SUPPERS We are hoping to have Advent Suppers (12/1, 8, 15, & 22) again this year and are looking for individuals or groups who would want to provide a meal and serve it. The Junior High Youth will be doing one of the Wednesdays, but we have 3 other Wednesdays up for grabs please contact the church office if you are interested in providing and serving for one of the Wednesday's in December, 364-2819 **DEADLINE for signing up to host an Advent is November 10th**

FROM THE ELDERS *Brandon Johnson, Jeff Gilbert, Brent Harm, Aaron Hoffman, Terry Lovett*
St. Paul Lutheran Church Elders are here for you, and interested in your input or concerns.

Jeff Gilbert 371-2608 jeff.b.gilbert@hotmail.com Aaron Hoffman 364-5166 aaronjen@netllc.net

Brandon Johnson 515-231-1744 brandonj2911@gmail.com

Brent Harm 712-210-4135 harm1477@gmail.com Terry Lovett 712-369-1447 tmlovett@frontiernet.net

THANKSGIVING PIE SOCIAL The Elders will be hosting our congregation's Thanksgiving Eve Pie Social. The Thanksgiving Eve worship will be at 7:00PM and the the Pie Social will be in the fellowship Hall after the service. There is a sign-up sheet for those wanting to share a pie for the social on the Welcome Center.

FROM THE BOARD OF HUMAN CARE *Glenda Hausman, Darci Sibenaller*

PARISH NURSE Thank you to everyone who stopped by to learn about the AED on October 10.

There are now more people who may be able to help out should the need arise to use the AED at church or even anywhere else one is available. We all hope no ever has to use it, but a life could be saved if used when needed.

Thank you to Angie Frank, RN for demonstrating how to use the AED and answer the many questions that were asked. People were amazed at how easy it is to use and relieved to hear they can't harm anyone by using it. On the contrary they may be able to help save a life.



LIFE QUOTE "Abortion isn't somebody else's issue. It's your business, it's my business, and it's our business. It's our issue as Christians, it's our issue as citizens, and it's our issue as human beings. Abortion and the sanctity of every human life matter very much for elections—more so than anything else. And it matters for much more than elections. It's a whole life issue!" *Pastor Michael Salemink, Executive Director of Mission and Ministry, Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*



COMMUNITY BASKET Donations for November: soups and stews, crackers. Place your donation in the shopping cart in the Narthex. All items are appreciated as well, as they can always use donations. The Community Basket is open on Thursdays (except 3rd Thursday), from 2:30-5:30PM. The **Mobile Pantry** will be at **Quad County Corn Processors on November 18th, from 4:30-5:30PM.**

THANKSGIVING MEAT CERTIFICATES we will be doing a free will offering for the Mid Sioux Meat Certificates on November 7 and November 14 or your free will offering can be left at the church office.

FROM THE BOARD OF STEWARDSHIP & MISSIONS *Brad Zobel & Deb Clausen*

Our stewardship emphasis for this year is **Fellow Workers on God's Team**, which will start on Sunday, November 7th. The Apostle Paul wrote, "We are God's fellow workers" (1 Corinthians 3:9). Through Paul, God was telling the people in Corinth that they had the honor and privilege to work with Him as important participants in His mission. In the same way, God makes us His fellow workers on His team. Even though we are undeserving and have nothing to offer, God, in His sovereignty, chooses us to be His vessels through which He will accomplish His purposes. As God's fellow workers, we become His hands, feet, and mouth to the world.



God does not schedule tryouts for those He selects to be on His team. He isn't seeking the most talented, the most powerful, or the most attractive. He invites and encourages everyone to be part of His team. The people who become part of God's team vary in appearance, in gifts, in stations of life, and other ways. Although God's team is made up of people who are different in some ways, the one common factor is that they are all new creations with transformed hearts (2 Corinthians 5:17). Through the work of the Holy Spirit, they have become people of faith who see God as their greatest treasure. Faithfulness is a top priority as a fellow worker with God. Through faith, we commit and are energized to serve God by serving others. What we do with our time, talents, and money gives evidence to which team we belong. In God's Word, we find examples of people who were not eager always to be fellow workers on God's team. Moses gave numerous excuses that God shouldn't use him to lead the Israelites out of the Egyptian captivity. Saul hid! David felt unqualified to be king. God caused Jonah to be swallowed by a fish in order to get him on His team. God didn't give up on these people. He chose and equipped each of them to be a fellow worker on His team. God blesses each of us with the privilege to be a fellow worker on His team. Whether we willingly join or are at first resistant, we are now participants in God's mission to help others "to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth" (1 Timothy 2:4). God uses ordinary people like us to do extraordinary things. We pray that this emphasis will encourage us all to be **Fellow Workers on God's Team**.

VANCO MOBILE APP the VANCO Mobile App (free in your app store) is an option to be able to electronically send your contribution directly to St. Paul Lutheran Church account. We hope that this feature will give you another option. Watch for more information and updates soon, via our website, bulletin and newsletter. You always can mail in your contributions or contact your local bank to do online giving through them as well. If you are interested in this app, you can also contact the church office.

FROM SHARA OSIRO IN KENYA A VISIT TO PROJECT 24 LENKISHON...

Due to restrictions and lockdowns of the Coronavirus pandemic, I have not been able to travel as much. As restrictions eased, my colleague Britt Odemba and I could plan a visit to Project 24 site Lenkishon. It is the closest one to where we are in Nairobi. We wanted to take new photos and videos of the children and the site and to spend time with them and the staff. Being around the kids evokes such joy. The view from the main building looks out to beautiful mountains, and it sits nearby to a watering hole where cows and goats can be seen throughout the day. Britt and I received a warm welcome to the site. Some of the children were at the nearby school doing exam reviews, so we took a walk to visit them there. We were escorted by the others that remained at the site. It was a fun walk, as the kids asked questions and giggled when I took photos of them along the way. It was also nice to see the locals going about regular day-to-day activities of taking their livestock out to graze. At the school, we were greeted by the deputy principal and lots of smiles from the children. The walk back to the site took us past the Lutheran church where the kids worship. We were blessed to have the kids sing a few songs for us. Now it was down to the business of taking individual photos. The boys are always so serious and don't usually like to smile. The girls on the other hand smile a bit more and without too much coaxing. Afterward, we shared a meal and talked more about how things are going with the site manager. We received a positive update, and from our time with the children could see that they are doing well and are happy. We thank the Lord for that. Together In Christ... Shara & Michael

BACK-PACK BLESSINGS Please consider donating to "Backpack Blessings" which will help supply the school kids with food items to help offset the at-home food insecurity in our local school system. We have a display and donation bin in the narthex and will also accept cash donations to purchase needed items.

MISSION CENTRAL EVENTS Mission Central – LCMS World Mission



40718 Highway E 16, Mapleton, Iowa 51034 PH: 712-882-1029

Gary.Thies@lcms.org

Be sure to check the bulletin board in the hallway by upstairs Conference Room for information on Missionaries visiting Mission Central this month.

FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES Ross Ladwig, John Brinkman, Dennis Clausen, Dale Edsen

Project Updates: Repairing Education building heating and air-conditioning. Proposal will be brought to the Voters on November 14th.

FROM THE BOARD OF EVANGELISM / ASSIMILATION *Jen Hoffman & Kristy Gilbert*

JOIN US FOR COFFEE AND FELLOWSHIP ON SUNDAY MORNINGS we will have coffee and treats in the fellowship hall immediately following the Sunday worship service. Please plan to join us for coffee, a sweet treat and great conversation. Everyone is welcome!

Please look for a sign up sheet in the Narthex to sign up to share food items on a particular Sunday morning, or contact Jen Hoffman or Kristy Gilbert.

MAIN STREET LIVING IS A LUTHERAN TELEVISION PROGRAM that is endorsed by the Iowa West



District of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. The program receives no funding from the District, but is totally funded by viewers and congregations of the KCAU Viewing area. The program is broadcast on **KCAU, the ABC network affiliate in Sioux City on Sunday morning, starting at 10:00 AM.** The first 30 minutes are remastered episodes of the popular "This is the Life" series that was very popular in the 70's and 80's. The second half of the program is a modified Lutheran worship service that features a different Pastor each week, from the station's broadcast area.

FROM THE BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION *Jon Devitt & Robyn Devitt*

CONFIRMATION AND MIDWEEK CLASSES 5:45-6:45PM, for grades 3rd -8th

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS meets from 9:30-10:30AM on Wed mornings in the Conference Room in the lower level.

SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:15-11:15AM, grades: 4 year old preschool – 12th grade

SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE CLASS join us in the lowerlevel Conference Room. 10:30-11:15AM

"THE TRUTH" BIBLE CLASS FOR 8TH-12TH GRADES Sundays, 10:15-11:15AM

"THE MID WAY" 5TH - 8TH GRADES Sunday, November 21 from 1:00-3:00PM

"THE HIGH WAY" FOR 8TH -12TH GRADES Sunday, November 21 from 5:00-7:00PM

THEOLOGY AT SUBWAY Thursdays, 6:00-7:00PM

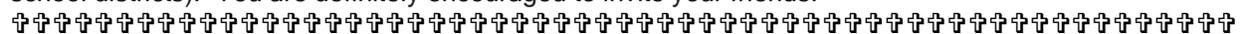
FROM THE BOARD OF YOUTH AND FAMILY LIFE *Karen Petersen and Synda Jepsen*

Thank you to those who donated to or ordered Sub Sandwiches for one of our fundraisers. We very much appreciate your support of our youth of St. Paul

We are working on a couple of activities coming – watch for more details

5th-7th Graders are invited to attend **"MidWay"** Youth Night at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Ida Grove on **Sunday, November 21st from 1:00-3:00pm.** "MidWay" is a middle school youth night for students of the OABCIG school district and neighboring districts. You are definitely encouraged to invite your friends.

8th-12th Graders are invited to attend **"The HighWay"** Youth Night at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Ida Grove on **Sunday, November 21st from 5:00-7:00pm.** This month's HighWay our theme will be Thanksgiving. **"The HighWay"** is a student ministry to the OABCIG School District (and neighboring school districts). You are definitely encouraged to invite your friends.



LWML LADIES BIBLE STUDY FOR NOVEMBER

RUTH (2) will meet on November 4 at noon at Zimmys for lunch and 1:00PM at the church. Susan will be BSL, we had 9 present for our Oct. meeting. We took down LWML items and put out fall displays.

LOIS (3) will meet on November 4 in the Conference Room at 1:30PM. Janice will be our hostess and Judy W. will be BSL. We had 9 members present for our Oct. meeting.

EUNICE (10) will meet on November 4 at the Bread Box in Battle Creek at 2:30PM. Clara will be hostess and Karen will be BSL. We had 5 present for our Oct. meeting.

JOHANNA(12) will meet on November 4 at 6:30PM in the Conference room, Marge will be hostess and BSL. We had 5 present at our Oct.meeting.



November Acolyte Schedule:

Nov 6 Kylie
7 Courtney
Nov 13 Journey
14 Jack
Nov 20 Jenna
21 Matthew

Wednesday Nov 24 Whitney
27 Sam
28 Hildie
Wednesday Dec 1 Kady
4 Creighton
5 Kasey

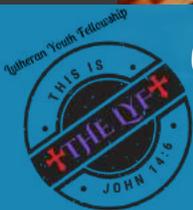
Just a reminder: "Fall Back" 1 hour on Saturday before bed as Sunday November 7 is Daylight Savings Time

Voters' Meeting on Sunday November 14 at 10:10AM (2022 Budget approval)

Thanksgiving Eve Worship Wednesday, November 24 at 7PM and Pie Social to following the worship service

NEWSLYF

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Upcoming Events

"The Highway" Thanksgiving
Sunday, November 21st

Advent Supper
December, Date TBD

"The Truth" Christmas (8th-12th grade)
Sunday, December 12th

"The Way" Christmas
Sunday, December 19th



The Highway (8th-12th Grade)

Sunday, November 21st
From 5:00-7:00pm
St. Paul Lutheran Church



"The Truth" Sunday Bible Study

Every Sunday from 10:15-11:15
(5th-12th Grade)



The Way (6th-8th Grade)

NOT MEETING IN NOVEMBER



**THRIVENT
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November 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Church Services on Sunday: Live Streamed Facebook parking lot tune into 97.1 2:00PM local cable channel	1 Bells 6:30PM	2	3 7:00AM Bible Study@Zimmys 9:30AM Bible Study 5:45-6:45PM Midweek 3-8 th	4 Theology at Subway 6:00PM	5	6 Worship Service 6:00PM w/Communion
Daylight Saving Time Ends All Saints' Day 9:00AM Worship w/Communion 10:15 Fellowship & Coffee 10:15-11:15AM Sunday School 10:30-11:15AM Adult Bible Study	7 8 Bells 6:30PM	9 Elders 7:00PM	10 7:00AM Bible Study@Zimmys 9:30AM Bible Study 5:45-6:45PM Midweek 3-8 th	11 Golden Horizons 2:00PM Theology at Subway 6:00PM	12	13 Worship Service 6:00PM
Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost 9:00AM Worship 10:10AM VOTERS' MEETING 2021 budget approval 10:15-11:15AM Sunday School	14 15 MCC 10:30AM LWML Bible Study Leaders 4:00PM Bells 6:30PM	16	17 7:00AM Bible Study@Zimmys 9:30AM Bible Study 5:45-6:45PM Midweek 3-8 th	18 Willowdale 2:00PM Theology at Subway 6:00PM	19	20 Worship Service w/Communion 6:00PM
Last Sunday of the Church Year 9:00AM Worship w/Communion 10:15 Fellowship & Coffee 10:15-11:15AM Sunday School 10:30-11:15AM Adult Bible Study 1:00-3:00PM 5 th -7 th grade MidWay 5:00-7:00PM 8 th -12 th grade HighWay	21 22 Bells 6:30PM	23	24 7:00AM Bible Study 9:30AM Bible Study 2:30 MCC No Midweek / Confirmation Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service 7:00PM Pie Social to follow worship	25 Thanksgiving Church office closed	26 Church office closed	27 Worship Service 6:00PM
First Sunday in Advent 9:00AM Worship 10:15 Fellowship & Coffee No Sunday School 10:30-11:15AM Adult Bible Study	28 29 Bells 6:30PM	30				