

# Crossings

"Making known  
God's deeds  
among us."  
Isaiah 12:4

Volume 13 Issue 7

July 2018

## Pastor's Epistle

Dear Friends in Christ – The peace of the Lord be with you always!

July is a 5-Sunday month, so will have our semi-annual meeting on Sunday, July 29<sup>th</sup>, at the end of worship; it will also be a healing worship service. The gospel texts and reflections for July are as follows:

**July 1<sup>st</sup> – Mark 5: 21-43:** Jesus heals Jairus' daughter and woman with the hemorrhage - Individuals feel these tensions as well: people are sandwiched between the needs of aging parents and the needs of small children; parents feel stretched to meet their vocational obligations and spend time with their families; students want to serve others but feel pressed to just get their own work done.

Of course, in the face of Jesus' power, none of these really are either/or propositions, even though they seem like dead ends. In Mark's gospel, Jesus' power is enough to provide new life for both the rich man's daughter and the poor woman. How often do we assume that God's power is not enough to bring life out of the seemingly impossible choices we make? We are challenged to open up the interruptions and hard choices of our lives to Jesus' power to bring life out of death.

**July 8<sup>th</sup> – Mark 6: 1-13:** Jesus experiences resistance to his teaching/sends out the disciples - Perhaps Jesus sends his disciples out stripped of their possession precisely so that *they* are ready to witness to God's power in a new way. They go without any of the usual trappings of security or wealth, with no guarantee that their ministry will be received. In fact, Mark reminds us a few verses later (Mark 6:14-28) just how hostile the world can be to receiving the proclamation of the kingdom of God. John the Baptist will lose his life because of Herod's resistance to repentance. Nevertheless, Jesus' teaching continues to astound, and the word continues to spread.

**July 15<sup>th</sup> – Mark 6: 14-29:** The gospel writer tell the story of John the Baptist's beheading - The sex and violence hinted at in this narrative have led to its popularity with artists. For believing Christians it can be a picture of the lengths to which political injustice might go toward its self-protection and of the possibility that Christian faithfulness can lead to persecution. Christ, to whom John points and whom he prefigures, is both the one who preaches against injustice and the one whose head was on the platter for us. Our weekly meal contrasts with Herod's banquet.

*Continued on page 2*

## Our Mission Statement

*Called by Christ to love  
God & neighbor  
through deepening prayer,  
broadening fellowship,  
and expanding worship.*

"In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loves us so much, we also ought to love one another."

1 John 4:10-11

Continued from page 1

**July 22<sup>nd</sup> – Mark 6: 30-34, 53-56:** the disciples return from their mission/Jesus has compassion on the crowds - Jesus' compassion sees others in their wholeness: both their suffering *and* their purpose. Jesus is moved, and so *he* moves. He goes *toward*, to meet the need. "Compassion," Frederick Buechner writes, "is the knowledge that there can never really be any peace and joy for me until there is peace and joy finally for you, too" (*Wishful Thinking: A Seeker's ABC* [New York: HarperCollins, 1993], p. 18).

**July 29<sup>th</sup> – John 6: 1-21:** Jesus feeds the 5,000 - Today is the first of five Sundays with gospel readings from John 6, the first four of which focus on Jesus as bread of life. Today Jesus feeds thousands of people with five loaves and two fish. What we have, what we bring to Jesus' table, seems like it is not nearly enough to meet all the needs we see around us. But it is not the adequacy of our supplies or our skills that finally makes the difference: it is the power of Jesus working in the littlest and least to transform this world into the world God desires, a world where all the hungry are satisfied.

May God bless the WORD we receive that we may continue to grow in compassion, courage, and mature faith. Walking with you along the WAY – Pastor Nancy

**Semi- Annual  
Congregational  
meeting  
will be July 29  
after worship.**

**Check St. Paul's new street sign.**

We had a great crew to install the sign on Weds., 6/11. Thank you to everyone who helped with this memorial property project. Great big thank you to Ed Simpson who donated his time and equipment to dig the post hole. The memorial committee is planning to finish the area under the sign with rocks and pavers for easy care.



Thanks be to God for all those people who gave memorial funds to St. Paul's.

It is because of their kindness and generosity that we have a brand new church sign.

Memorial funds for the new sign are in memory of Marilyn & Steve Larson, Bill Johnson, Bob Johnson, Myron Johnson, Mary Sue Slay, Bill Sailor And Al Tangie.

**RECENT PRAYERS**

Susan Anderson  
Donny Ballard  
Jerry Carr  
John & Helen Champe  
Laura Clouse  
Tim Cox  
Tony Daggett  
Mary Datschefski  
Vikki Herbold  
Ron Hohneke  
Clint Johnson  
Lilz Larson  
Shara McDonough  
Karen Niebuhr  
John Pasuit  
Gary Perry  
Mike Randall  
Rick  
Ty Rogerson  
Samantha Sabovitch  
Misty Smith  
Sam Smith  
Ron Swanson  
Rachel Thiede  
Greg Tilton  
Heidi Williams  
**(2017)**  
Susan Anderson  
Nate Baggett  
Linda Christensen  
Betty Foster  
Ryver Lane  
Jaxson Osmundson  
Suzie Smith  
=====

**St. Paul's Shut-ins:**

Ruth Johnson

**Continuing Prayers**  
**(2016)**

Anthony Allen  
Pat & Gerry Anderson  
Gene Dobson  
Gerry Gillette  
Maya Griebel  
Wendy Henexson  
Richard McDonough-  
Cathy Tietje  
Osmundson

Leo Oye  
Dr. MARRIDEE RANDALL  
Leeta Sanger  
Scott Sanger  
Lyle Spieler  
Fred Witte

**(2015)**  
Linda Ulrich Johnson  
Ella Teno

**(2014)**  
Sharon Glenn  
Nick Griffin  
Pat Mason

**Continuing Prayers**

Brantley Hemann  
Laura Moore  
Trisha Raven  
=====

**Education/  
Prayer Team**



July 11 @ 11 am

Prayer by Anna Madsen

Session one – The paradoxes of prayer (1 Samuel 12:16-23)



VBS Helpers Needed on July 9th.

Areas that need help are:

Kitchen help, help with the craft Project, service project and help with walking the children to the Leisure Lounge and while at the Leisure Lounge.



Do you know of prayers that have been answered that you would like to share with us at St. Paul's?

Please look at the prayer lists above and check on those folks to see how they are doing. They may want to share how God has answered their prayers.

VBS is **July 9** @ St. Mary's Catholic Church. We will be doing a one day/all day event jointly with St. Mary's this year from 9 am—3 pm. Registration is at 8:30 am.

Where in the World is Jesus?

We will be learning about Jesus in the country of China. Join us for a day filled with music, crafts, games and a community service project.



## Fellowship Team Ministries

### **3rd Sunday** **Dot-Luck Brunch**



**July 15**



### Senior Fellowship

**Pot-luck Luncheon:**  
**July 4 at 11:00 am.**  
Come celebrate with us. Picnic food.

### WOMEN of the ELCA (WELCA)

**Special Monthly Meeting** will be on Thursday, July 26 at 6:30 pm at the home of Karen Niebuhr with Karen & Marilyn Johnson hosting the evening. Car pool from the church at 6:15 pm. Picnic supper provided.

We have a monthly **Bible Study** on Weds.,  
July 11 at 11 am. See more details on page 3.

## *Birthdays & Anniversaries*



#### Birthdays

- 4. Jani Dorpinghaus
- 11. Eric Freeman
- 11. Harper Darlene Lettington
- 16. Dan Johnson
- 18. Harold Benson
- 20. Raychael Tilley
- 22. Kelly Bumpus
- 22. Gloria Smallwood
- 24. Lydia Dobson
- 26. Cassie Smallwood
- 29. Colleen Putnam



#### Anniversaries

- 2. Dave & Karen McCombs
- 10. Tyler & Kelly Simmons
- 12. Harold & Sharon Peterson
- 14. Jacob & Jessica Hemann
- 24. Charlie & Gloria Smallwood
- 28. Mike & Cyndi Dua



#### Baptismal Birthday's

- 1. Parker Hemann
- 8. Benjamin Mason
- 9. Bryan Raskie
- 21. Jani Dorpinghaus
- 24. Mark Mitchell
- 29. Martin McCombs  
Larry Wilkin



To Andy Fuhs for painting the church steeple and church sign between the brick Pillars.

We appreciate the weeding and mulch too. Looks great.

**Great Big Thank You to everyone who helped with our yard & bake sale on June 9th.** We had so much stuff that we had to set-up on 2 nights. We appreciate all those who set up tables, took down chairs,



helped move boxes, unload and mark items, those who brought items for sale, those who baked items for sale, those who helped pack everything up, moved boxes again and put the church fellowship hall back to it's original state.

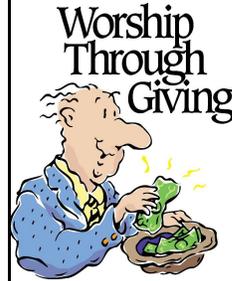


All your hard work paid off; as of today we collected over **\$950.00**. Half of that amount will go to missions that WELCA will decide at their next meeting. (Just a note; all items not sold were given to the Trinity Methodist Church Youth group, for their garage sale, so they can use the funds to go on a mission trip.)

# Council



**July 8th meeting after worship.**  
**We will also have a short meeting after the semi-annual congregational meeting on July 29.**



As we head into vacation time; remember the expenses of the church don't take a vacation!

**Please faithfully remember your giving even in your absence.**

## St. Paul's Council Minutes

June 10, 2018

Members present: Rich James, Ruth James, Stephanie Kelley, Nancy Reed, Anita Simmons, Amanda Thomas, Marilyn Woods

Approve minutes from last council meeting.

**New business:** council reviewed the church usage guidelines for a request for St. Paul's to be used by a non-member.

**Treasurer's Report:** Funds were transferred from savings (\$400) to pay bills in May. We skipped paying benevolence in May, due to lack of funds. \$1292 per week average giving, but we need \$1492 per week.

Pastor asked for solutions to help our congregation meet budget, especially in Summer and Fall; we should spend time in prayer to find a solution. How can we find/make/save the money we need? We also need to be thinking of the future when Pastor retires-what will our congregation do with our 25-30 giving units? Would we be able to afford another Pastor? Would we have to yoke up with another church?

Discussion was had that the treasurer's position should become a paid position, as many churches already do this because it is such a demanding position. We need to remember to discuss this in December when we create a budget. We make a resolution that in January, at the Congregational Meeting, we will propose to provide a salary for the treasurer's position.

The new sign has arrived and will be put together this Wednesday, June 13<sup>th</sup>.

The garage sale sold items and made over \$900. This event is put on by WELCA. Half the money will go to Missions projects and the rest goes to a savings account that provides supplies for Church.

Meeting adjourned, 11:05

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

May Offering: \$5,359.00  
May Expenses: \$5,701.55  
Deficit: (\$342.55)

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**Pastor Nancy will be out of the Office from July 16 through July 26 for her knee surgery and recovery.**



**Mowing & Property Up-keep:** Thank you to everyone who has helped with the church property in May and June. **We Still Need Your Help:** If you can help with keeping the church property looking good, please sign-up on the sheet for mowing or trimming.

# Mission Task Force



**Boxes of Hope Continuing Mission:** for the Emergency Assistance Office.

Items that are in the greatest demand are:



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**All-purpose cleaning products & Bathroom cleaners**

**Dish soap**

**Laundry Detergent**

**Toilet paper**

**Toothpaste**

**Shampoo**

**Men & Women Deodorant**

**Body wash (not bar soap)**



These items can not be purchased with the SNAP card (food stamps)

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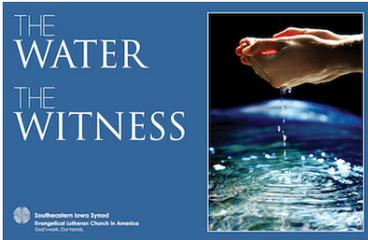


## WELCA May Food Baskets



**Thank you** to everyone who donated food items to the May Baskets for Helping Hand. As you can see below we gathered a lot of items that are easy for kids to prepare for the summer months. Helping Hands was very happy to see everything that was donated.

The 31<sup>st</sup> Assembly of the Southeastern Iowa Synod was held May 18 and 19, 2018, at the Marriott Hotel and Conference Center Coralville, Iowa. Over 400 voting members and visitors gathered around the theme “The Water and The Witness.”



The synod assembly offering, a culmination of the “The Water and The Witness” buckets project was designated to water-related ministries of the ELCA.

**Our contribution of \$1,717.40, here at St. Paul’s, helped with the total of more than \$60,500 that was given by congregations and individuals.**

We took our decorated “bucket” to the synod assembly and they used it as part of a running water display. Can you spot St. Paul’s Bucket?



Ours is the one on the left with the big blue paper.



They had some very creative decorated buckets.



## Worship Team Ministries



We will resume again in the fall.  
Have a great summer.

### Worship Servers

Altar Guild: Betty Hohnke / Marilyn Woods

<b><u>July 1</u></b>	Worship Assistant:	Gail Clouse
	Ushers/Greeters:	Fred Diers & Andy Fuhs
	Lector:	Gail Clouse
<b><u>July 8</u></b>	Worship Assistant:	Marilyn Woods
	Ushers/Greeters:	Stocker Family
	Lector:	Marilyn Woods
<b><u>July 15</u></b>	Worship Assistant:	Marilyn Woods
	Ushers/Greeters:	Dan & Pat Johnson
	Lector:	Florence Heacock
<b><u>July 22</u></b>	Worship Assistant:	Anita Simmons
	Ushers/Greeters:	Larry & Sharon Wilkin
	Lector:	Anita Simmons
<b><u>July 29</u></b>	Worship Assistant:	Gail Clouse
	Ushers/Greeters:	Harold & Mardyll Benson
	Lector:	Gail Clouse

**Wedding Invitation:**  
*Our Wedding Day*  
**Kaitlyn Spieler & Joshua Fullenkamp**  
invite the members of St. Paul's to join them on September 15 at their wedding at 2:00 pm.

Their wedding will be at St. Mary's of the Assumption in West Point, IA. Reception will be at 5 pm at the American Legion in West Point, IA. See more detail on the invitation on bulletin board. **RSVP by July 1.**



Acolytes

### Schedule for July

<b>July 1</b>	<b>Nikko light &amp; put out the candles</b> <b>Lydia collect communion cups</b>
<b>July 8</b>	<b>Sophie light &amp; put out the candles</b> <b>Parker collect communion cups</b>
<b>July 15</b>	<b>Eli light &amp; put out the candles</b> <b>Grayson collect communion cups</b>
<b>July 22</b>	<b>Lydia light &amp; put out the candles</b> <b>Nikko collect communion cups</b>
<b>July 29</b>	<b>Parker light &amp; put out the candles</b> <b>Sophie collect communion cups</b>



### **Healing Worship:**

July 29 is our healing service. It will include the laying on of hands, anointing with oil, and individual prayers. All of us experience illness, mental fatigue, and/or spiritual disillusionment in our lives from time to time. Here is an opportunity to present yourself to the Lord and receive the healing God intends for you.

**Usher & Lector rotation** is on the table by the bulletin/usher stand.

**Usher duty check list** is behind the gray attendance book.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
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Albia, IA 52531

Phone: 641-932-7270  
Email: splalbia@iowatelecom.net  
Web Site—<http://www.splalbia.org>  
Office Hours: Tues.-Weds.-Thurs.  
9 am-2 pm

Place Mailing Label Here

Get your newsletter by e-mail and in color. Send your e-mail address to the church office.

**Links:**

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
The Southeast Iowa Synod of the ELCA

[www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org)  
[www.seiasynod.org](http://www.seiasynod.org)

**EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE OFFICE HOURS:** Monday 9:30 –11:30 am & 1-3 pm  
Wednesday 10 am—Noon & 1—3 pm Friday 9 am—Noon



**WEB SITE:** Check out St. Paul's Web site at <http://www.splalbia.org>.

You will find our newsletters, calendar and recipe. Please send the office anything you would like to share on our web site.



**Radio Broadcast** St. Paul's worship service is broadcast each Sunday on KIIC (96.7 FM ) during their Sunday Son—Up programs starting at 8:00 am.



**Open House:** In honor of **Fr. Michael Volkmer's 50th Anniversary of his Ordination to the Priesthood**

Sunday, July 8th at St. Mary's Catholic Church Social Hall from 2-5 pm.



**Bake Sale**

**RESTORATION DAY BAKE SALE:**

**Aug. 4 from 9 am –noon.** We will be having our annual bake sale on the square.

Please bring items to the square by 8:30 am.

Please have everything pre-wrapped. Remember chocolate items (things that will melt) don't do well in the heat.

Please sign-up for what items you would like to bring; this helps so we don't have a lot of doubling up on anything.