

Crossings

“Making known
God’s deeds
among us.”
Isaiah 12:4

Volume 17 Issue 3

March 2021

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

From the Pastor

Great God, in Christ you call our name and then receive us as your own, not through some merit, right, or claim, but by your gracious love alone. We strain to glimpse your mercy seat and find you kneeling at our feet. (ELW #358)

This year the pandemic has forced us to journey through Holy Week in a different way. We plan to provide the familiar stories- the palm procession and the passion of our Lord, during our Sunday service and in a recorded Good Friday service. One of the rituals we will not portray is foot washing. Instead, although this is not in the usual order, one of the readings for Palm Sunday will include Jesus washing his disciples’ feet.

This hymn was written for Maundy Thursday, when we usually include this ritual. After Jesus had eaten supper, before he was taken away for trial and death, he taught his disciples a new commandment, “Just as I have loved you, you also should love on another.” **“Just as I have loved you.”** Jesus was speaking directly to his disciples. Love each other! And in case you have been *straining to get a glimpse of that*, you have just watched me wash your feet. “You ought to wash each others’ feet,” Jesus told them. “... *show how grandly love intends to work till all creation sings, to fill all worlds, to crown all things,*” verse 4 continues. Grandly, we don’t usually think of caring for others’ feet as grand!

The love Jesus revealed to his disciples, and that we are to live, is servant love. Bending down to soothe rough and worn feet is not glamorous ministry. We may be invited to hear the story of why someone’s life is rough and worn. Or maybe not. But we wash and soothe anyway. In whatever way we encounter someone, we use Jesus’ example, to pour gushing life-giving water over the wounds, to gently dry the tears that may flow, to lift someone from darkness to light.

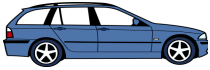
In the midst of a tragic year of pandemic, we all have wounds, rough and worn souls. This hymn reminds us we are to notice him at our feet. We give thanks that God sends other people to wash our feet, to care for our weariness. Then, we are to go and do likewise. This servant love is not a “maybe.” Jesus says you **ought** to wash one another’s feet. “This is a new **commandment**,” not one option out of many.

Every day of our lives we meet someone, maybe a family member or co-worker, whose feet are dry and dusty, whose life has a wound. We are called to be servants to others, to listen, pray with, and tell our story of God’s love.

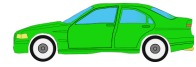
When we love like Jesus, he says, everyone will know that we are his followers. Especially this year, after what feels like a year of Lent, we look forward in confidence to the day of resurrection. And in our loving, we can give others that confidence, too.

May you know God's blessings and love during this Holy Week.

Pastor Karen Ullestad



Drive—In Worship



Parking starts at 9:30 am

Worship Starts at 10:00 am

Complete Order of Worship with Holy Communion

TUNE your car radio to 107.7 FM

Hymns will be played by our organists: Veronica Fuhs and Karen Witte.
Pastor Karen Ullestad will be leading our worship and the hymns.

COLD WEATHER DRIVE-IN WORSHIP

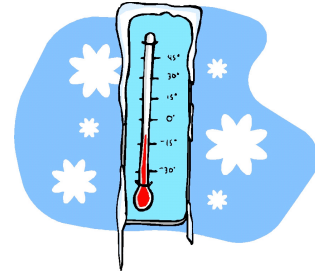
As we continue with our Drive-In Worship, our set-up will be:

Greeters will be just inside the church entry; handing out the bulletins and communion cups, as the congregation drives under the portico to receive them.

When everyone is parked, Pastor Karen will drive under the portico and lead worship from her car.

(Weather permitting: Pastor will try and be visible during parts of the worship service.)

(If the weather is too cold; Pastor Karen will lead worship from inside the church.)



Church Cancellation Information: Look for cancellation notices on St. Paul’s Facebook, KIIC Radio-97.6 FM, TV Channel 8-KCCI - Des Moines and by e-mail.

Sunday Home Devotional: is sent out via e-mail and the postal service; if you are not able to attend the Drive-In Worship on Sunday. When the weather is so bad, that church is cancelled, everyone will be able to use this devotional at home, for that day.



Daily Devotions



Daily Lenten Devotions:

SEIA Synod has provided us with Daily Devotion Lenten materials. Their theme this year is “Baptized and Set Free”. We will be posting these daily devotions on our Facebook page: St. Paul’s Evangelical Lutheran Church, Albia



Special Lenten Discipline for each Sunday in Lent

We are asking everyone to bring their Bibles to worship each week at our Drive-In Worship.

We will be looking up the scripture readings.

Only the Psalm will be printed in the bulletin and we will read it together.

If you need a Bible, one will be provide.

(You could leave it in the car for the next week.)

Education/
Prayer Team

RECENT PRAYERS

Rev. Bernard Setter
Dan Stocker
Jordan
Dylan Zimmerman

Continuing Prayers

Dean Bettis
Nancy Clouse
Christine Corbine
Tim Covey
Mary Egbert
Kevin Klingbeil
Carol Mc Clure
Haley Mason
Arlys Murphy
Karen Pottorff
Susan Roland
Lyle Spieler
Carla Wahl
Marian Walker

St. Paul's Shut-ins

Ruth Johnson



**Home Huddle
Youth Devotional**

Each week they will receive, though their parent's e-mail, a lesson that follows the up-coming Sunday's scripture reading.

Sometimes there will be video links to watch and crafts to do.

We are hoping this will be a easier way for families to worship together at home and they are able to fit it into their busy schedules.



**Youth Lenten Check-In-
Wednesdays at 6:00 pm**

Pastor Karen will be meeting with our youth each week over Zoom.

Dates are: March 3, 10, 17, 24

Lenten Midweek - Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

"Prayer" is the series topic each week. Our time together will be over **Zoom**. Pastor Karen will send out the **Zoom** invitation each week.

Hope you can join us.

Dates are: March 3, 10, 17, 24

Psalm for a Prayerful Heart

O God,
Draw me into your presence during this Lenten season.
Show me how to quiet my thoughts and bring my ceaseless activity to a standstill.
Let silence and solitude enfold me so that I can attend to the stirrings of my own heart and listen for your voice.
Deliver me from the temptation to run away when shadowy images emerge for you are found in both the dark and luminous experiences of life.
May my prayer life enlarge this Lent, thus leading me more fully towards Easter's hope and promise.
Amen.



Birthdays & Anniversaries

Fellowship Team Ministries

Birthday

1. Nathan Dorpinghaus
3. Hayley Dobson
6. Kara Tomlin
19. Robert Zarn
22. Grayson Kelley
25. Mike Spieler
29. Larry Wilkin


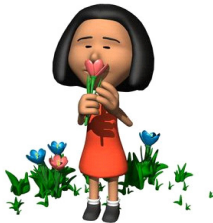

Baptismal Birthday

3. Betty Hohneke
8. Marilyn Johnson
10. Rhonda Mason
11. Carson Stocker
21. Ron Hohneke
22. Sophie Hemann
27. Nikko Dobson
27. Lydia Dobson
27. Hayley Dobson
- Kay Spieler



MARCH 17




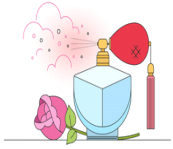





March WELCA Meeting:
On Thursday, 25 at 7:00 pm,
we will have a social ZOOM meeting. *

Your Zoom invitation will be sent to you
via e-mail the week of March 24th.

Our topic to share is: Some aroma or
smell that brings a memory of someone,
some place or is special to you.

*With the cold weather and Covid; this seems to be
the best way to keep everyone warm and safe at this time.



**Zoom Meeting March 21
after worship @ 11:30 am**

Church wide News

ELCA supports Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania COVID -19 relief

Recently the ELCA was able to provide a grant to the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania (ELCT) for COVID relief efforts. Those working with Global Mission at the ELCA church wide organization are continuing to monitor and provide updates about COVID and its effects on our companions overseas.



**2 Volunteers needed to attend the SEIA Synod Assembly
on May 22, 2021 via Zoom.**



Dear Members of St. Paul's Lutheran Church,
Thank you all for your prayers, memorial gifts, concerns, calls and cards this last year and a half for Harold and help when I brought him to church. It was all appreciated. It's wonderful to belong to such a caring church.
The family of Harold & Mardyll Benson.

COVID—19 INFORMATION

**COVID-19
After Vaccination**

MAXIMUM IMMUNITY of 94% is reached two weeks after your second vaccination.

KEEP WEARING a mask and practicing social distancing. You could still transmit COVID-19 to others.

AVOID VACCINATIONS of other types for two weeks after your first and second COVID-19 vaccinations.





OUR LENTEN MISSION
Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits.

Lent may be a time of waiting and darkness, but it need not be one of inaction and hopelessness. This Lenten season we can announce to the world that Christ gives us a Season of Hope by putting together Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits.

We will be collecting items through April 4, Easter.

Items Needed:

1 light-weight bath size towel (20"x 40" or 52"x27") Dark Color Best

2 or 3 bath-size bars of soap 8-9 oz.

1 adult size toothbrush in original package**

1 sturdy (wide teeth) comb

1 metal nail clippers

** Toothbrush multi-pack may be used by sealing an individual tooth brush in a business size envelope. (No plastic bags or wraps)

(Please NEW Items only)

If you are not able to go shopping, you can help with this mission by donating funds to pay for the shipping of the care kits. **Shipping Costs per kit is \$2.65.** Hope you can help with this much needed mission.

MISSIONS
...at home and around the world



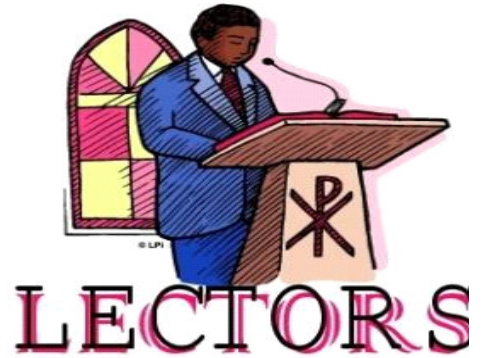
**TOTAL of 9 Soldier Boxes
were sent to Kosovo**

Thank You for all the donated items and the postage to send the boxes. The soldiers greatly appreciated your generosity.





Worship Team
Ministries



This year we will be incorporating the story of Holy Week in our Palm Sunday Service and our Good Friday Service, that will be on our Facebook page.



Palm Sunday Worship —March 28
We will have the procession of the palms. (Weather permitting). You will also hear the Maundy Thursday readings.

<u>Lectors for March</u>	
7	Gail Clouse
14	Marilyn Woods
21	Gloria Smallwood
28	Anita Simmons



Good Friday Service—April 2
We will be recording this service and it will be posted on the St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church Albia—Facebook page on Good Friday.



Easter Sunday Worship—April 4
If you would like to bring flowers for Easter; please drop them off at the church during Holy Week.



Greeters
Welcome Worshippers

GREETERS NEEDED:
for March

7	McClure Family
14	McClure Family
21	?????
28	?????

Contact Gloria so she can put you on the schedule.

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
335 North Eighth Street
Albia, IA 52531

Phone: 641-932-7270

Email: splalbia@iowatelecom.net

Web Site—<http://www.splalbia.org>

Facebook:

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church Albia"

Office Hours: Tues.-Weds.-Thurs.

11:30 am-2:30 pm

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

www.elca.org
www.seiasynod.org



“ St. Paul’s Evangelical Lutheran Church Albia” Is our Facebook Page.
The profile picture is of our stained glass cross altar window.
Check it out; there is a lot of good information being added.



RADIO Worship Options

St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, Albia

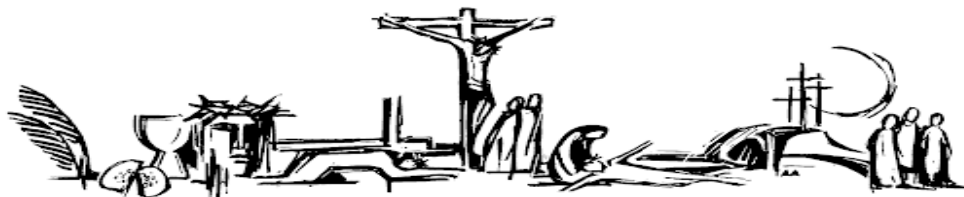
RADIO BROADCAST: Listen to our Drive-In worship at 8:00 am on KIIC Radio-96.7 FM
(You will hear the worship service that was recorded the previous Sunday.)

*You can also listen to this worship service on the KIIC’s web-site: If you are not able to get
reception for this radio station in your area, you can listen to it on-line.

First Lutheran Church, Chariton Pastor Richard Hutton

RADIO BROADCAST: First Lutheran Church and Christ the Servant Lutheran Church
on KIIC Radio – 96.7 FM out of Albia, IA. Sunday at 10:30 AM.

Blood Drive Tuesday, March 16 from 3-7 pm. Trinity United Methodist Church; sponsored by the Albia
Ministerial Association. Masks and appointments are required. Call 1-800-747-5401.



HOLY WEEK March 28—April 4