



# Crossings

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

Volume 12 Issue 5

May 2017

## Pastor's Epistle

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

A couple of days ago, I was in conversation with several colleagues discussing how we approached the previous Sunday's gospel text which was the story of Jesus' two appearances with the disciples, and our friend, Doubting Thomas. One pastor talked about the text as a reunion, and I found that to be a valuable way to look at the text.

The frightened, ashamed, and dispersed disciples had somehow re-united in the upper room, minus Thomas, and huddled there in fear that the Jewish authorities would seek them out and arrest them. Suddenly Jesus appears in their midst, validates his resurrection by showing them his wounds, and then blesses them with his peace not once but twice. He commands (sends) them out with the same mission with which the Father had sent Jesus and disappears.

The next week, all re-unite again, including Thomas, and Jesus appears to them again, showing Thomas his hands and side - reunion and healing complete.

We all disperse during the week to our many and various vocations to which we are called – parents, teachers, mechanics, bankers, business folk, retirees, etc. We come back to our weekly reunion each Saturday night or Sunday morning so that, together, we may be re-united with Christ in our midst around Christ's table in the bread and the wine, as we give glory to God in our worship, receive forgiveness in our confession, hear the blessing and challenge in God's Word, and pray together for each other, all Christians everywhere, and people around the world.

We need this weekly reunion. While Jesus promises to never leave us or forsake us as individuals, he also means this for us as a congregation reunited under the means of grace received together. He calls us to continue in the work he did as his agents, his ambassadors, in the places we find ourselves. We represent Jesus; and to do that we need the weekly reunion around the cross to fortify ourselves for so great a call.

Reunions are awesome! So I hope you will join us around the cross for our weekly St. Paul's reunion Saturday evenings @ 5p.m. or Sunday mornings at 9a.m. See you at the reunion!

Walking with you along the WAY – Pr. Nancy

## 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

## VBS-Where in the World is Jesus” Part 2

June 12—June 15 from 6—8 pm in the evening

This year we will be “traveling” and learning about the 4 countries below:



We will need your help with food items, crafts, games and kitchen helpers as well as decorations.

EACH NIGHT WE Will Need:

2 people for the kitchen

1-2 people to help with games

2 people to help with crafts

2 extra people to help where needed

Customs Agent

Program—Pastor Nancy

Music & Dance—Jessica Hemann

Please attend the meeting on  
May 7 so we can give you  
more information.

We need your help with decorations. If you have any items to display from any of the above countries please bring them to the church. We will be decorating Sunday, June 11 after worship.

Other supplies needed will be in the bulletin after May 7th.



Join us as we honor our 2017 Graduates with a reception on May 7, after Sunday worship.

### High School Graduates:

Alec Freeman—Son of Kelly & Angela Freeman

Jaylin Holton—Grandson of Marilyn Johnson

Bryan Raskie—Son of Ruth James & Tim Raskie

Brooke Sparks—Daughter of Doug & Stephanie Sparks

### College Graduates:

Dakota Kelley—Associate of Arts Degree—Indian Hills Community College

Parents are Curtis & Stephanie Kelley

Cassandra Smallwood—Bachelor of Arts Degree –University of Iowa

Parents are Charlie & Gloria Smallwood

Averill Fuhs—Doctorate Degree— Des Moines University

Parents are Andy & Veronica Fuhs





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

Education/  
Prayer Team

**RECENT PRAYERS**

- Anthony Allen
  - Pat & Gerry Anderson
  - Nate & Ann Baggett
  - Mary Carder
  - Greg DeMoss
  - Gene Dobson
  - Gerry Gillette
  - Maya Griebel
  - Wendy Henexson
  - Cora Leshin
  - Richard McDonough
  - Christopher Malloy
  - Claudia Ortego & children
  - Cathy Tietje Osmundson
  - Leo Oye
  - Dr. Marridee Randall
  - Mike Randall
  - Rick
  - Travis Rummans
  - Leeta Sanger
  - Scott Sanger
  - Susie Smith
  - Lyle Spieler
  - Greg Tilton
  - Fred Witte
- =====

**Continuing Prayers**  
**(2015)**

- Linda Ulrich Johnson
- Ella Teno

**(2014)**

- Sharon Glenn
- Nick Griffin
- Pat Mason
- Devin Sinclair

**Continuing Prayers**

- Brantley Hemann
- Laura Moore
- Trisha Raven
- Bert Whitlock

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**WELCA Bible Study:**

Wednesday, May 10 at 11 am.

Reformation anniversary Bible study on "Galatians: Christian faith and Christian freedom."

"Biblical scholars describe Paul's letter to the Galatians as the Magna Carta of Christian freedom," Kleinhans writes. "Martin Luther called it 'my Katie von Bora.' Like his marriage to Katie, Luther's relationship with Galatians was a rich and lasting one: over a period of 20 years, he published six commentaries on the epistle. Luther's reformation was centered in the doctrine of justification by grace through faith for Christ's sake, which he saw as the heart of Paul's letter to the Christians in Galatia. It is also the heart of Paul's—and-Luther's message for us today."

**Session 3: Heirs of the promise (Galatians 3:24-4:31)**



**VBS: Where in the World is Jesus" Part 2**

**Meeting on May 7th at 10:45 am after worship.**

**Everyone who is able to help with VBS please attend this important meeting.**



Our sympathy goes out to the family and friends of Lester Rue, Evelyn Sharpe's brother, who passed away on April 26. May they find comfort in the hope and promise of eternal life.

## Fellowship Team Ministries

### Pot-luck



**BRUNCH**  
**May 21**

### Senior Fellowship

**Pot-luck Luncheon:** We will be having our potluck lunch on Wednesday, May 3 at 11 am.

### WOMEN of the ELCA

**Monthly Meeting** will be on Thursday, May 25 at 7:00 pm. Our hostess will be Evelyn Sharpe.

**WELCA Bible Study: Weds. , May 10 At 11 am.**  
(See more info on pg 3)

**WELCA Cluster 9 Spring Gathering will be held on Sat. , May 6 in Centerville.** Registration is a 8:30 am and is \$5.00. Their program will be by Pastor Jeremy McElvain, he will be talking about art & Christianity.

**May food basket mission** see page 6 for more info.

**June 10—Garage & Bake sale**



## *Birthdays & Anniversaries*

### Birthday's

2. Tyler Simmons
5. Nikko Dobson
14. Katie Johnson
20. Karen McCombs
21. Louie Clouse
22. Jenna Clouse
22. Richard Lettington III
26. Gail Clouse
29. Doug Sparks
31. Parker Anthony Hemann



### Baptismal Birthday's

5. Stephanie Sparks
5. Leland Sherman
5. Morgan Sherman
7. Jacob Hemann
8. Andy McCombs
8. Mike Duea
18. Kedan Philip Johnson
20. Lynn Heaton
28. Gail Clouse
31. Cameron Stocker

### Anniversaries

4. Richard & Ruth James



### Mowing & Property Upkeep

**WE NEED YOUR HELP:** If you can help with keeping the church property looking good this summer, please sign-up on the sheet for mowing or trimming.



### **Church Office Notes:**

Pastor Reed will be at the Synod Assembly on Friday, May 19 and on Sat. May 20th. **NO Saturday Worship on May 20.**

Gloria will be out of the office on May 11th through May 21st.

Lions Club will be using the fellowship hall on Weds. May 10.

## Council



**Council Meeting:  
May 21 after worship.**

### 1<sup>st</sup> QUARTER - 2017

Offering	\$16,222.44
Misc. Income & transfers	1,534.00
Total Income	\$17,756.44
Less Expenses	- 18,203.04
Difference:	-446.60
YTD average weekly offering:	\$1,247.88
Weekly average need for 2017 budget	\$1,452.00
<b>Current weekly deficit</b>	<b>- 204.12</b>



**Attention: we are falling  
behind our BUDGET!!!!**

St. Paul's Lutheran Church      April 23, 2017

Council Meeting Minutes

Present: Gail Clouse, Richard James, Ruth James, Pastor Nancy Reed, Anita Simmons, Kay Spieler, Amanda Thomas, Marilyn Woods.      Absent: Stephanie Kelley & Karter Spieler

Devotions

Approval of the agenda: Marilyn motions to accept agenda as presented; Amanda seconds. Motion carries.

Acceptance of the Minutes: Pastor Nancy motions to accept minutes as presented; Gail Clouse seconds. Motion carries.

### **Treasurer's Report & Approval:**

We are still about \$200 shy/ week of the giving necessary to meet the budget. It was asked if there were any ideas to help boost giving over the summer months, as giving throughout this time of the year is inconstant. Would anyone be willing to write a thoughtful letter for the bulletin?

In regards to the Edward Jones account; the church account needed investment readjustments. Because the market is high, we should withdraw the money needed to cover the cost of the Church roof. Guided Solutions, through Edward Jones, is the system that will manage our account and make adjustments to the market faster than we would have been able to. We are expecting better growth because Edward Jones will manage the account.

The treasurer's report is accepted as presented.

### **Committee Reports:**

Worship: has not met yet

Christian Ed: Vacation Bible School will be held June 12-16, 6-8PM. The theme is the same as last summer's VBS. The children will be learning about Cambodia, Senegal, South Africa, and Mexico. We need volunteers to help with the food. Jessica Hemann will be teaching the music and the dances.

In July, Pastor will begin a sermon series that will include reading and teaching from the Small Catechism and exploring the Ten Commandments. This class will begin Sunday, July 2nd through Labor Day.

In August, Pastor will be on vacation 10<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>. She will preach the weekend of the 12<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>, but require pulpit supply for the 19<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>.

Some of our young people will be attending Church Camp this summer, including Lydia and Nikko Dobson, Sophie and Parker Hemann, and Eli Hilton.

There were no other committee updates.



## “Pigs with a Purpose to Fight Hunger”

With your generous giving we have 41 piglets to help fight hunger. We will continue to collect fund through May 17. **Spammy says, ”thank you for all my piglet friends.”**

### WELCA May Food Baskets



During the month of May we will be collecting non-perishable food for the Monroe Co. Helping Hands Food Bank. Their shelves run low during the summer months.

The following are items needed:

The following are items needed:

- Canned vegetables**
- Canned fruit**
- Breakfast cereal**
- Pasta**
- Canned soups**



### Council Minutes Cont. from page 5

**Old Business:** The parsonage has experienced more water damage since Spring rains have occurred. Pastor has noticed more plaster on the floor, indicating continuing water damage. Rich will inspect the parsonage when there is a heavy rain. He will also begin the deconstruction of the family room ceiling in an effort to find the leak. Can the repairs be made by August? We are looking for a clear week of good weather to begin work on the chimney. While weather is poor, the wet, moldy drywall could be removed from the parsonage. Also, the carpet and flooring for the parsonage have all been ordered.

In other old business, the sign for the chapel still needs to be made. Gail is eager to complete this project. The sign will read, “St. Paul’s Lutheran Chapel”, and it’s paint colors will match the color of the Church. Gail asked about a new sign for St. Paul’s to replace the current one that is becoming dilapidated and that is almost unseen by passersby. Discussion was had about having a better sign and displaying it so passersby could read it more easily.

The Memorial Committee has not met yet. An idea was offered that some Memorial funds could be used to purchase a new sign for St. Paul’s that would display service times.

**New Business:** Bids for the roof were reviewed, and we accepted the \$13,000 bid from Redoy. Work will begin very soon, and Rich will be in contact with him. Color confirmation of the roof will happen Sunday, April 30th so that Redoy can begin work as soon as possible.

Calendar: May 21st- An abbreviated meeting for the Property Committee following Church service Meeting Adjourned

Council Minutes submitted by Amanda Thomas, Secretary

## Worship Servers

Altar Guild: Julie Stocker & Gail Clouse

<u>May 7</u>	Worship Assistant: Marilyn Woods Usher/Greeter: ?????? Lector: Marilyn Woods
<u>May 14</u>	Worship Assistant: Marilyn Woods Ushers/Greeters: Tom & Linda Preston Lector: Tom & Linda Preston
<u>May 21</u>	Worship Assistant: Marilyn Woods Ushers/Greeters: Hilton family Lector: Marilyn Woods
<u>May 28</u> Memorial Weekend	Worship Assistant: Anita Simmons Ushers/Greeters: ?????? Lector: Anita Simmons
<u>June 4</u> Pentecost	Worship Assistant: Gail Clouse Ushers/Greeters: ?????? Lector: Gail Clouse



### Schedule for May

May 7	Morgan light & put out the candles Grayson collect communion cups
May 14	Lydia light & put out the candles Nikko collect communion cups
May 21	Parker light & put out the candles Sophie collect communion cups
May 28	Grayson light & put out the candles Morgan collect communion cups



**Pentecost Sunday June 4th:** We remember on this day that Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to dwell with us. We receive God's Spirit through our baptism, and so we are given new life and salvation as the old self, bound by sin is cast aside and the new self, guided by the Spirit, emerges from the waters. **You are encouraged to wear the color red on this day, as red is the tongues of fire.**



**Pentecost Flowers:** On June 4th you may bring red flowers, geraniums, etc, in memory or in honor of someone.  
Please sign-up on the sheet in the fellowship hall.

## Worship Team Ministries

**Choir**  
8:15 am

May 9-Practice & Performance

May 29-Choir annual family pot luck Bar-B-Q in the fellowship hall at 6:00 pm.

Anyone who has sung with us this year or would like fellowship time with choir members is welcome to come.



**USHERS / GREETERS / LECTORS Needed:** We need your leadership as ushers/greeters offering a warm welcome to those attending worship and we need someone to share God's word by reading the Holy Scriptures on Sunday's. Please put your name down on the sheets in the fellowship hall.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
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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.

**Blood Drive** Tuesday, May 23 from 3-7 pm at Trinity United Methodist Church. This event is sponsored by the Albia Ministerial Association. To donate please call 800-452-1097 for an appointment.



**SATURDAY EVENING WORSHIP:** Every Saturday at 5:00 pm  
with Holy Communion. (No Sat. worship on May 20.)



MAY 29, 2017