

# Crossings

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

Volume 10 Issue 11

November 2015

## 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.

As I write this, All Saints' Day is fast approaching. This year we have over 16 names of people to be remembered; I'm sure there are many more folks we remember in our hearts. To remember these people is to remember that we are not a tiny, isolated group; we are part of an immense "cloud of witnesses" who have gone before us, who are alive around us now, and who will come after us. No one comes to faith in Jesus Christ in isolation – each person arrives in faith through the prompting of the Holy Spirit at work in the people around us. Faith comes from what is seen and heard.

The beauty of this "cloud of witnesses" is that their stories continue to influence our growth in faith and, in turn, we tell our stories of faith to the folks around us, whether they are friend or stranger. The Holy Spirit is so creative and finds large and small ways to remind us of the great love our God has for all people; through the children announcing in worship that God loves everyone; or providing \$.30 to ensure that \$400.00 will truly buy 5 goats, 4 pigs, and 3 clutches of chickens through the ELCA Good Gifts; or the stories about the quilts that are worn by people around the world; and the individual stories of God's presence and grace in the midst of illness or difficulties.

In the beauty and grace of God – all people matter. The stories of the young and the old, the rich and the poor, male and female, family and friends, neighbor and stranger – all matter to Christ who died once for all. Those who live in faith have died in Christ and risen to eternal life now. And we are called, as part of this "cloud of witnesses", to witness to the love of Jesus Christ as we daily relate to all we meet; to tell our stories of what Christ has done and continues to do for us and through us for the sake of others.

So what is your story? I would love for you to tell me how Jesus Christ continues to love you in your daily life. It could be really fun to spend the month of November sharing our faith stories with one another. Let's be attentive to Jesus' activity in our lives and share that story of grace with each other. I'm confident that God will work through our story-telling and folks will experience God's grace anew.

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.***

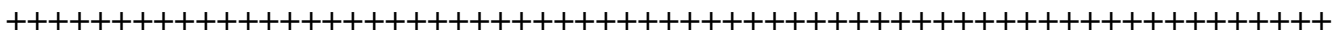
"In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loves us so much, we also ought to love one another."

I John 4:10-11

**Salvation Army Bell Ringers!!**

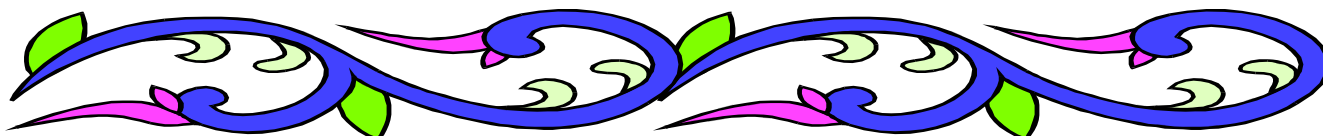


Please sign-up to help ring bells on **Saturday, December 5 from 9 am -6 pm** in one hour shifts at **Jim & Charlie's**. Sign-up sheets will be out on Nov. 8. Ninety percent (90%) of funds raised remain in Monroe County/Albia to be disbursed through the Albia Ministerial Emergency Assistance fund.



**Building Faith Through Family Home Huddles**  
**(BF-T-FHH)**

On November 22 after worship (10:15 am) we will be making Advent candle wreaths for the families to use at home with the daily devotions "Sing a Song of Christmas!". This is a great activity for inter-generational time with our children. Please join us.



**Christmas Program Practice**

Every Wednesday from 5:45—6:45 pm there will be practice here at St. Paul's for the Christmas Program, lead by Jessica Hemann. (No practice on November 25 & dress rehearsal will be on Dec. 9th.)

**Christmas Program** will be on December 13 during Sunday worship.



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

**Education/  
Prayer Team**

**RECENT PRAYERS**

- Carrie Bergland
- Mary Carder
- Ray Hopkins
- Frank Hunter
- Linda Ulrich Johnson
- Loraine Jordan
- Martha McGlothen
- Lowell McKracken
- Karen Moon
- Rosealee Rhodes
- Lyle Spieler
- Ella Teno



**WELCA Bible Study:**

Wednesday, Nov. 11th at 11:00 am

**Slow Faith**

Session 2: **Make haste, O Lord**

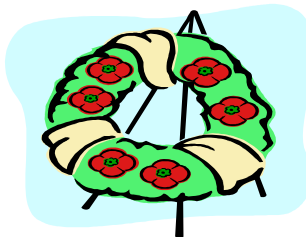
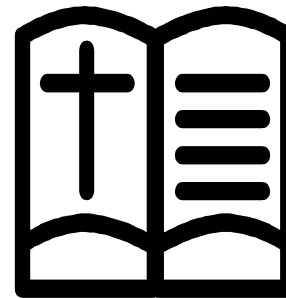
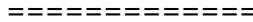
We will glean the rich testimony found in the psalms to explore the limits of "slow faith".

**(2014)**

- Opal Bloomer
- Vickie Buckingham
- Addie Fausett
- Sharon Glenn
- Nick Griffin
- Gary Hollst
- Alyson Karl
- Richard McDonough
- Pat Mason
- Carol Newhard
- Deloris Perry
- Gary Perry
- Amy Pottorff
- Dr. MARRIDEE RANDALL
- Carol (Keegle) Reed
- Devin Sinclair
- Paulette Williams

**Continuing Prayers**

- Alex Amante
- Kevin Bunch
- Brantley Hemann
- Loren Lettington
- Laura Moore
- Rhonda Morgan
- Trisha Raven
- Bert Whitlock



**In Sympathy**

Loving God, surround the family and friends of Annabelle Post-Hogeland who died on October 3rd, with your comfort and compassion.

Our sympathy goes out to the Dan & Pat Johnson family who mourn the loss of Ron Anderson, who died in September.

Remind all who mourn that death is not the end. For those who believe in Jesus Christ, death is an entrance into greater life with you.

**Faith Foundation Bible Study**

"Reclaiming the "C" Word, Daring to be Church Again" Sunday at 10:30 am.

We will have Bible study the 1st, 2nd and 4th Sunday's of the month.

## Fellowship Team Ministries

### Sunday Brunch



**November 15**



#### Birthdays

- 8. Brad Johnson
- 12. Alyssa Marie Butler
- 14. Blair Butler Thomas
- 15. Catherine Benson
- 23. Lynn Heaton
- 27. David McCombs



#### Baby Girl

Congratulations to Cody & Brittany Flattery on the birth of their daughter Cora Laurenz on Sept. 12, 2015. Cora weighed 6 pounds and was 19 inches long. Grandparents are Doug and Stephanie Sparks and Mark and Jean Flattery.

### Senior Fellowship

**Pot-luck Luncheon: On Weds. Nov. 4 at 11:00 am.**

We will be playing a couple games as our program. Spaghetti will be provided. Bring food items that would go with spaghetti.

### WELCA

**DATE CHANGE for NOV. MEETING :Thursday the 19th at 7:00 pm.** Our hostess will be Karen Niebuhr. We will be drawing for our Advent Angels at this meeting.

**WELCA Bible Study: Weds., Nov. 11 at 11:00 am.**

(See more info on pg 3)

Thank you to everyone who helped with the WELCA Fall Cluster 9 Gathering that we hosted last month.

**Advent Angels:** See below.

**Soup Lunch and Supper** will be Dec. 10 this year. Candy dipping will be on Dec. 7 and packaging on Dec. 8.

**WELCA Christmas tea** will be Dec. 13th @ 2 pm. (No Cookie exchange this year.)

## *Birthdays & Anniversaries*

#### Baptismal Birthdays



- 4. Chuck Clouse
- 4. Blair Butler Thomas
- 17. Stryker Lettington
- 22. Evelyn Sharpe
- 25. Anne (Preston) Jenkins

#### Anniversaries

- 1. Andrew & Gina McCombs
- 18. Michael & Pamela Butler

### Advent Angels



If you would like to participate this year please fill out a pink questionnaire and return it to Gloria before the November 19 meeting. We will be drawing at that meeting. Only 3 gifts this year. Total budget for all 3 gifts is \$20.00.

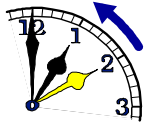
Remember your special person on Nov. 29, Dec. 6, Dec. 13 with a gift. We will open the gifts after Sun. worship. On the Dec. 13 at our Christmas Tea bring your final gift and reveal who's Advent Angel you are.

# Council



**NEW DAY FOR COUNCIL MEETING:**  
Tuesday, November 17 at 6:0 pm

**Special Thank You** to David McCombs who donated his time and muscles to clean all the carpets in the church last month. And thank you to Andrew McCombs for donating the cleaning equipment that David used. Your generously is greatly appreciated and carpets look great.



**Daylight Saving Time change:**  
Remember to set your clocks  
back one hour Sat. night Nov.  
1st at 2:00 am.

**Fall Back 1 hour.**



\*\*\*\*\***Council minutes** will be in next months newsletter.\*\*\*\*\*



**Thank you** to everyone who has helped trim the shrubs , mow the lawn, kill the weeds in the parking lot & prayer path and helped take care of the church property this summer

We have had some church up keep (light in the hall by church offices fixed, pot lights in sanctuary replaced, furnace filters replaced, etc.) done this past month.

**Thank you** to Curtis, Richard, Greg, Brandon & Kara and all the others that do the behind the scenes things we do not even know were done.

Greg added new light to enhance the stained glass window in the front of the church. Check it out at night it looks really great.



**Council Members needed:** If you would like to help make the decisions regarding church matters the council has an opening for you. Please let anyone on council know that you are interested.

Council members are:

Kay Spieler, Pres.

Gail Clouse, Vice Pres.

Amanda Thomas, Secretary

Lana Kaldenberg, Colleen Putnam, Curtis Kelley, Richard James, and Marilyn Woods.



**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** the church.

## Special Congregational Meeting:

On November 15 after worship we will have a brief meeting regarding the replacement of a furnace & air conditioner for



## MISSIONS TASK FORCE

**Missions Meeting: Sunday  
Nov. 8 at 10:15 am**

**Christmas Baskets for Helping Hands:** Sunday, Nov. 1st is the last day to bring in your items for the Christmas Basket Mission. You can still take items to Helping Hands until Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>. List of items needed are in the fellowship hall.

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### ON-GOING Mission for the Assistant Emergency Office Needs:

The shelves at our Ministerial Association Emergency Assistance Office are nearly empty. We have special need for items which cannot be obtained by food stamps:

Personal hygiene for men and women: deodorants, bath soap, body wash, toothpaste, shampoo, etc.

Paper products: bathroom tissue, etc.

Baby products: diapers, etc.

Cleaning items: **laundry detergent**, dish soap, any cleaning products.



### ADVENT MISSION: Poinsettia Project for November & December —Starting Nov. 8th.

Poinsettias are wonderful, but wouldn't it be great if they kept on living? That can happen by choosing a poinsettia that the Missions committee provides. Instead of or in addition to buying a real poinsettia plant, you can use those same funds to buy ducklings or chicks for a family in a third world country through the **ELCA Global Barnyard**; donate to **Smile Train** for surgery to fix a cleft lip and palate; or donate to **Habitat For Humanity** where they change lives by helping them build homes. (This part of the project will end on December 27th.)

The large poinsettias - are a part of this project in which the people of St. Paul's take on a family for Christmas. You have the option of giving presents for the entire family, of for a single member of the family. These family gifts need to be wrapped and returned to the church no later than **Sunday, December 13th**.

Here's how it works: Each poinsettia comes with a gift tag.

1. On the front of the tag, check one or more of the 3 selections offered. (If choosing more than one, tell us how much money goes to each entity).
2. Then at the bottom, write the name of the person for whom you are memorializing or honoring. Also write on the tag what you want us to purchase from the ELCA Global Barnyard, chicks, goat, etc.
3. Put the card and check in the envelope provided, and deposit them in the Mission's Christmas wrapped box. The missions committee will keep track of the money and send it to the appropriate entity per your instructions.
4. Return the poinsettia to the box/basket provided and we will decorate the Christmas tree with them. (or you can put the poinsettia on the tree yourself.)



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**Sharing the Weight Blankets:** on Sat. Nov. 7 from 1-7 pm you can help make weighted blankets for special needs children. Hosting this blanket making party is Christ the Servant Lutheran Ministry in Corydon.

## Worship Servers

Altar Guild: Linda Preston & Sharon Wilkin

<u>Nov. 1</u> All Saints	Worship Assistant: Ushers/Greeters:	Gail Clouse Marilyn Johnson & Lana Kaldenberg Gail Clouse
	Lector	Gail Clouse
<u>Nov. 8</u>	Worship Assistant: Ushers/Greeters:	Marilyn Woods Marilyn Johnson & Lana Kaldenberg Lana Kaldenberg
	Lector	Lana Kaldenberg
<u>Nov 15</u>	Worship Assistant: Ushers/Greeters:	Marilyn Woods Harold & Mardyll Benson
	Lector:	Anita Simmons
<u>Nov. 22</u> Christ the King	Worship Assistant: Usher/Greeter: Lector:	Anita Simmons Don & Karen Niebuhr Anita Simmons
<u>Nov. 29</u>	Worship Assistant: Usher/Greeter: Lector:	Marilyn Woods Tom & Linda Preston Linda Preston

## Worship Team Ministries

**WORSHIP MEETING**  
Monday, Nov. 23 at  
9:30 am.



### CHOIR

- Nov. 1 Practice 8:15 am  
Performance
- Nov. 8 NO practice
- Nov. 15 Practice 8:15 am
- Nov. 22 Practice 8:15 am
- Nov. 29 NO Practice

### November 1



#### **All Saints Sunday**

We will be remembering our loved ones, family and friends, who have died with a special candle lighting during worship.

### November 29



#### **Prepare for Advent Congregation Celebration**

St. Paul's will be putting up decorations in the sanctuary and the fellowship hall. Join us for our Hurry up and Wait celebration.



Sunday Worship  
9:00 am





St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
335 North Eighth Street  
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

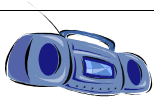
Place Mailing Label Here

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)



**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.

**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 any photos and recipes you would like to share and Martin Reed will add these to St. Paul's Web site.

**St. Mary's Albia Election Day Dinner: Tuesday, November 3rd Serving 5:00-7:00 pm.**

More information on flyer in entry.

**MOMS IN PRAYER-** Moms in prayer is a group of women all ages & denominations coming together to pray for our Schools. We meet every Friday morning that School is in session from 8:30 - 9:30 a.m. Go to Albia Moms in Prayer on facebook to keep updated or call Denise Gray @ 932-7651.

**Community Memorial Service:** Will be here at St.Paul's Lutheran Church on **Thursday , Nov. 12 at 6:00 pm.** Please join us in the remembrance of those in our community who have gone before us. Sponsored by Tharp Funeral Home, Sinnott-Piershbacker Funeral Home and Monroe County Hospice.

**We Need a couple people to help host/serve at this event.** Please let the church office know if you are able to help.

**Monroe County Ministerial Ecumenical Thanksgiving Worship Service:** will be held here at St. Paul's this year on **Sunday, 11/22 at 3:00 pm.** Each church is asked to bring 2 dozen cookies. We would appreciate a couple volunteers to host/serve the coffee and cookies after worship. Please let the church office know if you are able to help.

Special showing of "**Value of the Soul**" will be shown at the Community King Theater on November 8th. This is part of the Billy Graham My Hope Campaign called "Simply Sharing Jesus."