

# Crossings

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

Volume 11 Issue 11

November 2016

## Pastor's Epistle

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

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

Sunday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, is All Saints' Sunday. This is a particular Sunday in which we remember all those who have gone before us in the last 12 months, all those who have gone before us throughout our lives, the saints who surround us each day, and the universal Church. According to The Lutheran-Roman Catholic U.S. Dialogue Round XI document *The Hope of Eternal Life* (2010):

""The fellowship of those sanctified, the "holy ones" or saints, includes believers both living and dead. There is

thus a solidarity of the church throughout the world with the church triumphant." This solidarity across the

barrier of death is particularly evident in the Eucharist, which is always celebrated in unity with the hosts of

heaven . . . Particularly in praise and adoration of God at the Lord's table, the apparent division marked by death

melts away."" (Declaration On the Way: Church, Ministry, and Eucharist, page 33).

When we worship through the Eucharist liturgy, we acknowledge that the Body of Christ is not only the living universal church active on earth now, but also all our brothers and sisters who have gone before us. All Saints' Sunday is truly a celebration!

I mention this because, well, All Saints' Sunday is 3 weeks away from this writing. But also because I want to give you a small taste of what is being planned for the first part of 2017 – the beginning of the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation – which is being celebrated all of next year. As part of that celebration, St. Paul's Lutheran and St. Mary's Catholic churches in Albia are going to have our own Roman Catholic – Lutheran Dialogue using the joint document/book signed by both denominations called, "Declaration On the Way; Church, Ministry and Eucharist". This document is a review of 50 years worth of dialogues between Catholics and Lutherans and celebrates 32 agreements which are no longer divisive between us. It is an easy read and a wonderful opportunity to be enriched by each other's witness, grow in faith and in fellowship with one another. Some myths might be debunked. And we can come to a greater appreciation of all the ways in which we are closer to unity than division.

## 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."

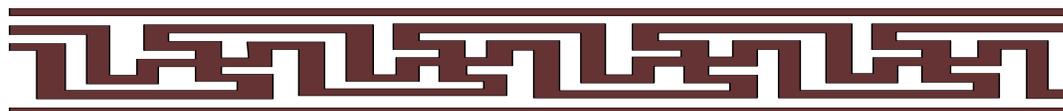
I John 4:10-11

Father Mike Volkmer, of St. Mary's parish, and I are planning a workshop for anyone interested in knowing more about what the Church was leading up to the Reformation, what was the genesis of the Reformation, and how we've come to greater unity over the past 50 years. Details of the class will be communicated at a later date, but I hope all of you will prayerfully consider attending. What a great opportunity to learn more about how we each understand the work of Jesus Christ in and through us for the sake of the world! We are going to have a terrific time!

Walking with you along the WAY – Pr. Nancy



**Special Offering for the Albia Ministerial Emergency Assistance**  
On Christ the King Sunday (November 20) we will be taking a special monetary offering for the Albia Ministerial Emergency Assistance. This year there will be NO Ecumenical Thanksgiving worship; instead of this service, where the offering went to assistance, all of the Albia churches will be have a special offering in the month of November.



**St. Paul's Painting that was Donated to Monroe Co. Museum:**

Thought I would update you on the status of the painting restoration. In July we received word that the gallery in Omaha was ready for us to bring the painting to them for an estimate of the needed work. Carolyn McAlister and her daughter took it over. This week we have gotten a written detail estimate for the restoration. We will be going over this at our annual meeting this Sunday. It is not as bad as we had thought it might be and since we have funds from a generous members estate we will be able to have the work done. It is a slow process so not sure when we will have back for display but just wanted St. Paul's to know we are still processing with this process and will keep you informed as I am sure you will all want to see it when it is done.



Marilyn Larson, Secretary for the Monroe County Historical Society



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

Education/  
Prayer Team

**RECENT PRAYERS**

Mary Carder  
Gene Dobson  
Ruth Ella Gardner  
Cora Leshin  
Richard McDonough  
Karen Moon  
Cathy Tietje Osmundson  
Leo Oye  
Dr. Marridee Randall  
Lester Rue  
Travis Rummans  
Leeta Sanger  
Scott Sanger  
Ron Shivers  
Donna Stafford  
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  
=====



**WELCA Bible Study:**

**Wednesday, Nov. 9 at 11:00**

**Fall 2016: When God's not fair--  
Coming to terms with a merciful  
God.**

Session 3:  
Paul and the power of failure:  
when God chooses the unlikely



We would like to thank everyone  
for all their prayers for Scott  
Sanger, our brother-in-law.  
David & Karen McCombs.



**Christmas Program Parent Meeting**

On Weds., November 9th from 6:45 pm—7:45 pm  
we will meet regarding what is needed for props  
and costumes for our Christmas Program this year.

**Christmas Program Practice**

We will practice before Advent Worship on  
Weds.,  
November 30 from 5:45—6:20 pm  
December 7 from 5:45—6:20 pm

**Christmas Program** will be on Sunday,  
December 11 during worship.



Loving God, surround the families  
and friends of Gerry Rockwell and  
Nancy Henderson with your  
comfort and compassion. May they  
find comfort in the hope and  
promise of eternal life.

## Fellowship Team Ministries

### Sunday Brunch



**November 20**

### Senior Fellowship

**Pot-luck Luncheon: On Weds. Nov. 2 at 11:00 am. We will be stimulate your brain with a few trivia questions.**

### WOMEN of the ELCA

**WELCA November Road Trip:** We will be going to Pella on **Monday, Nov. 21** for a Tour of Stores. We will stroll around town and enjoying the lavishly decorated stores and their delectable Christmas treats. Witness the splendor of the lighting of the Christmas trees in Central Park and the gleeful voices of carolers, horse-drawn carriage rides and a children's choir.

**5-8 pm in downtown Pella. Please sign-up** if you are interested in going. (This would be place of our monthly meeting).

**WELCA Bible Study: Weds., Nov. 9 at 11:00 am.**

(See more info on pg 3)

**Advent Angels :** Advent Sunday's are Nov. 27, Dec. 4, 11 and reveal at the Christmas Tea. More information on page 6.



## Birthdays & Anniversaries



### Birthdays

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



### Baptismal Birthdays

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

### Anniversaries

1. Andrew & Gina McCombs
18. Michael & Pamela (Wirtjes) Butler



We want to thank Karen McCombs for the beautiful fall flower arrangements she made for the altar in Oct.



Thank you to Richard James for putting the trim around the gazebo doors. Thank you also for fixing the bottom of the kitchen door.



**REMINDER: Daylight Savings Time Ends.**  
We Will Fall Back the first Saturday of November 6th.



**New Baby Boy:** Wyatt Parker James was born on Oct. 15 to Richie & Cali James. Wyatt weighed 7 lbs. 9 oz. and was 19" long. Welcoming him home are his 2 brothers Owen & Liam. Proud Grandparents are Richard & Ruth James and Tom & Carol Chamberlin.



**NEW BABY BOY:** Asher David was born on August 25th to Kylie. He weighed 7 lbs. 15 oz. He will join his big brother Keyden at home. Proud Grandparents are Andy & Gina McCombs. Great-Grandparents are David and Karen McCombs.

# Council



**Council Meeting:  
Sun., Nov. 20 at 10:30 am**

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| Treasurer's Report:                     |             |
| Offering & Income through 9/30/16       | \$57,184.22 |
| Transfer from Edward Jones for furnace  | + 5,600.00  |
| Total                                   | \$62,784.22 |
| Expenses through 9/30/16                | - 63,132.50 |
| Difference:                             | -348.28     |
| YTD average weekly offering: \$1,414.26 |             |

**September 18, 2016**

**St. Paul's Council Meeting**

Members present: Gail Clouse, Rich James, Kay Spieler, Pastor Nancy Reed, Amanda Thomas, Marilyn Woods  
Approval of Agenda: Rich motions to approve, Marilyn seconds; motion passes.

Open with prayer

**Secretary's Report:** Motion to approve the Semi-annual Congregational Meeting, Marilyn motions, Amanda seconds, and motion carries.

**Treasurer's Report:** Indicates we have spent more than we have had coming in; we hope the giving will pick up again this Fall. It was noted that July and August were months of low giving, with the average monthly giving being \$1225.03, about \$200 less than needed.

**Pastor's Report:** The Synod Fall Conference will be this Sunday in Davenport. Christian Ed. will meet next Sunday after church with parents invited to attend the meeting as well.

### **Committee Reports**

**Worship:** It was reported that Saturday worship services will be held from October through December on the first and third Saturdays only, at 6:30 PM. Daniel Nielsen will be playing piano.

**Faith Formation:** Curriculum is complete through January 8th and will be emailed to families. Pastor reported that Sunday School will still be in the form of Family Home Huddles, but now one lesson per week, instead of one a day.

**Missions:** The Spaghetti Dinner was a big success. This year the group's effort will focus on gathering donations to Smile Train, an international children's charity that provides 100%-free cleft repair surgery and comprehensive cleft care to children in 85+ developing countries.

**Fellowship:** It was reported that this group has not met since their last meeting.

**Property:** There is continued work at the parsonage to repair a leak. The church needs rain spouts.

### **Old Business**

Pastor's Thoughts on what to do with the land sale money: finish the chapel, treat and stain the outdoor cedar siding, pay the Memorial fund back, pay the other funds back that we borrowed from, then put the rest in the Anderson Fund to acquire interest. She also thought that a percentage should go to ministry, some money should be invested in the upkeep of the parsonage, especially for an inspection and repair of the chimney.

It was also discussed that Richard would lead the completion of the chapel and would get an estimate for the project, with the goal of completing the project in October.

There is an ongoing insurance claim for the leak at the parsonage. Pastor will call again to see where they are in completing the process.

Council needs a proposed budget for the upcoming October meeting. Pastor suggested holding a percentage of money in a separate account the church could access for future pastors.

Four new council members are needed for the January 2017 meeting.

### **Upcoming Calendar Events:**

Council Meetings: October 16th, following brunch, November 20<sup>th</sup>, December 11th

January 29th, Annual Congregational Meeting

Mid-Week Advent Services begin November 30th through December 21st at 6:30PM

December 11th, Sunday School Program

December 24th, Christmas Eve Worship Service at 8:00PM

Pastor reported that there will not be a community Thanksgiving service this year. Each church will do something special to support the Emergency Assistance Office.

Motion to adjourn by Gail. Marilyn seconds, and motion carries.

Minutes submitted by Amanda Thomas, Secretary, St. Paul's Lutheran Church

**MISSIONS TASK FORCE**  
**Meeting Sunday, Nov. 13**  
**after worship.**



**Boxes of Hope Continuing Mission:** for the Albia Ministerial Emergency Assistance Office. Items that are in the greatest demand are:

- |                                      |                          |                  |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|
| <b>All-purpose cleaning products</b> | <b>Bathroom cleaners</b> | <b>Dish soap</b> |
| <b>Body wash (not bar soap)</b>      | <b>Toilet paper</b>      | <b>Shampoo</b>   |

A Volunteer from the Emergency Assistance Office asked us for special help; **“We desperately need men & women’s deodorant, toothpaste, shampoo and laundry detergent.** The word has been passed around that the Emergency office has the above items and we can’t keep things on the shelves.”

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**ALBIA SENIOR LEISURE LOUNGE Home Delivered Meals need**

**volunteers:** If you are able to give 1 – 1 ¼ hour of a day weekly, every other week, or as often as they are able or even substitutes are essential. Delivery is between 10:30 – 11:30. Please call Carla @ 932-5198 or Pam @ call 855-410-6222



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Starting on the 1st Sunday of Advent (Nov. 27) you will be able to donate to ELCA Good Gifts and Smile Train.



**THE Giving TREE**

**ELCA Good Gift** have many different things where your donations can make a difference in people’s lives around the world. Your support is a way to make long-term sustainable solutions that keep on giving for years to come.

**Smile Train** provides surgery for children whose families are too poor to afford lifesaving and life changing cleft pallet repairs. In as little as 45 minutes and \$250.00 this surgery gives a desperate child not just a new smile, but a second chance at life.

**How to make a donation:**

- Pick out an ornament from the basket.
- Put your donation in the envelope attached.
- Put your ornament on the tree and the envelope in the decorated present box. (There is a place for you to put your name on the back of the ornament)
- You can choose as many ornament as you would like. Please be sure to put a note on or in the envelope and/or on the memo part of your check; so we will know where you wish your donation to be sent.



**Advent Angels**

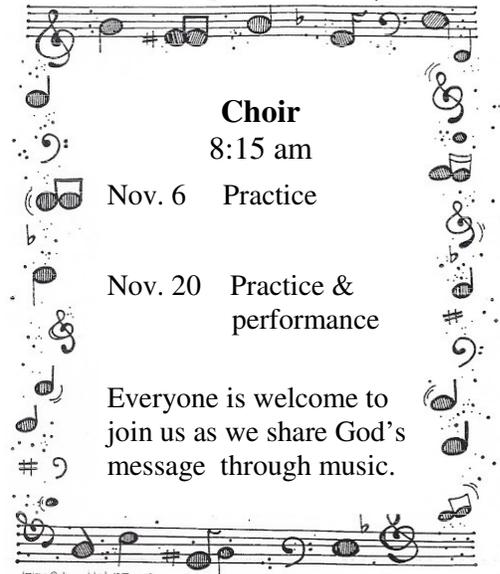
If you would like to participate this year, please fill out a pink questionnaire and return it to Gloria before the Sun., November 20. We will be drawing after worship. Total budget for all the gift \$20.00. Remember your special person on Nov. 27, Dec. 4, Dec. 11 with a gift. We will open the gifts after Sun. worship. At the Christmas Tea bring your final gift and reveal who’s Advent Angel you are.

## Sunday Worship Servers

Altar Guild: Karen Niebuhr & Betty Hohneke

|                |  |
|----------------|--|
| <u>Nov. 6</u>  | Worship Assistant: Gail Clouse<br>Ushers/Greeters: Richard & Ruth James<br>Lector: Gail Clouse     |
| <u>Nov. 13</u> | Worship Assistant: Marilyn Woods<br>Ushers/Greeters: Richard & Ruth James<br>Lector: Anita Simmons |
| <u>Nov. 20</u> | Worship Assistant: Marilyn Woods<br>Ushers/Greeters: ??????<br>Lector: Marilyn Woods               |
| <u>Nov. 27</u> | Worship Assistant: Anita Simmons<br>Usher/Greeter: ??????<br>Lector: Gail Clouse                   |

## Worship Team Ministries



**Choir**  
8:15 am

Nov. 6 Practice

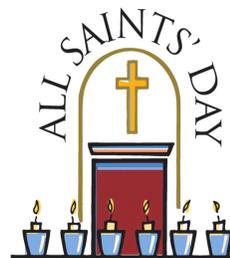
Nov. 20 Practice & performance

Everyone is welcome to join us as we share God's message through music.



### Schedule for November

|         |  |
|---------|--|
| Nov. 6  | <b>Parker light &amp; put out the candles<br/>Sophie collect communion cups</b>  |
| Nov. 13 | <b>Grayson light &amp; put out the candles<br/>Morgan collect communion cups</b> |
| Nov. 20 | <b>Nikko light &amp; put out the candles<br/>Lydia collect communion cups</b>    |
| Nov. 27 | <b>Sophie light &amp; put out the candles<br/>Parker collect communion cups</b>  |



### **All Saints Sunday November 6**

We will be remembering our loved ones, family and friends, who have died with a special candle lighting during worship. If you have a family member or close friend that you would like to include in this remembrance you can put their names on the sheet in the fellowship hall for a special insert.



### SATURDAY EVENING WORSHIP

**November 5th & 19th Worship will be at 6:30 pm with Holy Communion.**

We will be having Saturday worship on the 1st and 3rd Saturday's of the month. We hope to continue with Saturday worship through the end of the year; but we would have to have a maintained attendance of 9 people to continue. It is not good stewardship of our resources if no one attends.

### **Wednesday Evening Advent Worship**

We will be using the Holden Prayer Service for our Advent mid-week worship.

Worship will be at 6:30 pm on  
Nov. 30  
Dec. 7  
Dec. 14



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)

**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.

**Community Memorial Service:** Will be here at St. Paul's Lutheran Church on **Thursday, Nov. 10 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 Funeral Home and HCI/Monroe County Hospice.



**Prepare for Advent Congregation Celebration On November 20**  
St. Paul's will be putting up decorations in the sanctuary and the fellowship hall after worship. Join us for our Hurry up and Wait celebration.



Church Office Will be Closed November 23, 24 and 25.