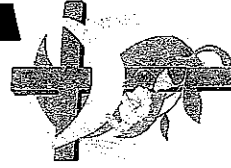


APRIL 2023

NEWSLETTER



ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH

HARTLEY, IOWA

Rev. Chris Nitzel, Pastor

Church office email: sphart@tcaexpress.net

Church office telephone: 728-2711

Church website: stpaulutheranhartley.com

St. Paul's Church Council Meeting March 28, 2023

Church Council met on Tuesday, March 28, at 7:00 pm. Those present: Pastor Nitzel, Inez Dacken, Donna Ahlers, Rick Roghair, Vickie Roghair, Donna Ahlers, Steve Vander Veen, Jen Waddell, and Patty Treimer.

Rick Roghair called the meeting to order. Pastor Nitzel gave devotions from Matthew 21, The triumphal entry, the beginning of Holy Week for us.

The minutes of the February 21, 2023, meeting were approved as distributed.

Treasurer Report: Donna reported the checkbook balance with 27% of the budget used. She reported on transactions in several special accounts..

Finance Report: Donna shared that there were 2 deposits since our last meeting: a count on March 7 and March 21. We had an EFT deposit, as well.

Elders Report: Rick Roghair shared that the elders talked about marriage. Also, Holy Week services were discussed.

Education Report: Jenn, Children will be doing a palm processional on Sunday. We will begin to talk about VBS soon. Sunday School will wrap up for the year on Mother's Day.

Stewardship Report: Inez had no report.

Evangelism Report: Dyan reported that they continue to send letters to new residents. We also send letters to people who have visited the church. Grief support went well and plans to do it again this fall. ESL will begin after Easter on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Other ministries are being discussed and developed. National Day of Prayer will be May 4th at 7:00am and 7:00pm.

Trustees Report: Steve reported Hahn's roofing has signed a contract to do the roofing and it will happen sometime in or after May.

Pastor's Report: Looking forward to Holy Week services. Camp would still like to try and get a DCE intern with us so we will work with them in the process.

Old Business: None.

New Business: Discussion was had about the windows in the entry way.

The meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Pastor Nitzel, Recorder

Patty Treimer, Council Secretary

**POP (People of Passion)
March 14, 2023**

Present: Mark & Sue S, Carolyn R, Kathi U, Joellen H, LeRoy R, Connie O, Dyan R

Purple tablecloths have been ordered for the front entrance. They will be used during Lent season and various other times.

Grief Support: Joellen reported that it was a very successful meaningful 6 weeks series. Eight people attended and she plans on offering the class again in the Fall and then possibly, twice a year in future (spring and fall). The group went to the movie "A Man Called Otto" and the movie has also been purchased for the church library. Thank you, Jo!

Mark is the District Rep and he shared that there are **grants** for smaller mission projects. He felt that a lot of the District information is not being shared with the smaller local congregations. He will speak with Pastor and Patty to see if there is some way to share this information.

ESL will begin the Spring Session April 11. Two evenings will be offered on Tuesday/Thursday 6:30-8:30. Pastor Pedro will possibly come for both classes. Planning meeting on March 20 to discuss ways to improve the class and sign up for teaching and other jobs needed. Several area businesses who employ Hispanics have been contacted and the ESL posters sent. Posters will also be put up in Hartley, Sheldon, Spencer. Advertisements in the Hartley Sentinel, TCA, Hwy Sign etc.

A new outreach Ministry will begin with a Bingo Night after Easter, possibly a Sunday afternoon with popcorn, other snacks and prizes.

This is an attempt to offer an event periodically throughout the year for St Paul's members – all ages - and if there seems to be an interest, may open to the public.

National Day of Prayer – Thursday May 4, two times will be offered to the community: 7-730 Am and 7-7:30 pm. Sign up sheets for the treats will be needed. This year's theme is : "Pray Fervently in Righteousness".

Trafficking in the area was discussed. Ways to inform the public was discussed – maybe invite the Highway Patrol speakers to return, who gave a presentation two years ago. They had said they would gladly return as they had new information.

Joellen suggested having an **Outdoor Summer Family Movie night** between the parsonage and the church area, in the grassy area. Ideas were shared about having an old fashion popcorn popper (Connie will talk with Bill Hibbing as she thought Bill's son had one), outdoor screen, water. Families would bring their own chairs, blankets etc. Open to the community. Possibly sometime in July, Sunday evening.

'Growing the Ministry at St. Paul's' list from 2014 was shared by Mark. Many of the ideas have been started and have been successful. The ideas are dependent on volunteers to make the ideas a success and ongoing. Volunteering does not end as we get older and think our job is over and now it's up the younger generation. Serving in any way we can is ongoing.

As you can see, our congregation is very active and viable – opportunities for **all ages** to help with our **Vision Statement**, which is in the middle entrance.

New Adult Bible class starting Sunday April 23!

Starting April 23 our Sunday morning Adult Bible class will be starting a DVD based series that will help us understand and grow in our faith and then talk about our faith more confidently. The topics will include:

- How We Got the Bible
- The Bible on Trial
- A Man Named Martin
 - Out of Nothing
- The Great Deceiver
- Journey From Unbelief to Faith
 - Who Am I?
 - Death...Then What?

Join us on Sunday mornings after church!

"GET TO KNOW" OUR ST. PAUL'S FAMILY ...

BILLIE JEANETTE GEERDES

Billie Jeanette Geerdes was born March 15, 1933 to Harolyn "Hal" and Leona "Brinkert" Zaiser. She was baptized as an infant at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Hartley by Pastor A.C. Weber. Uncle Emil Lux and Aunt Mae Bojens were her sponsors. She was also confirmed in the Lutheran faith at St. Paul's by Pastor Weber.

The family lived with Grandpa John and Grandma Emma Zaiser on the Zaiser farm for a time. A year and a half later, a brother Gary Lee came into the picture and completed the family.

We attended rural school in O'Brien County through the 8th grade except for several years when, because there were not enough students, we were sent to a school two and a half miles north in Osceola County. There were times when we walked, but often the teacher would provide a ride, especially in the morning. This continued until we moved to the "Sheldon" farm when I was in 5th grade, and there we had the luxuries of indoor plumbing including "running water" and an indoor bathroom.

As young children on the farm, we were responsible for "chores" including feeding the animals, milking cows, and gathering eggs (my least favorite chore). The hens would sit on the eggs and peck at anything or anybody that tried to move them. I suggested to my mother that I would rather milk cows, which did not meet with her approval.

After grade school we rode a bus to the Hartley High School that still stands in the middle of town. There, in addition to my studies, I was involved in choir and sang an occasional solo. During summer vacation, I worked for Aunt Florence and Uncle Ed Brinkert by helping watch their three young daughters, as well as doing housework, which, as I recall, included ironing little dresses with lots of ruffles. Occasionally, I would help Uncle Ed with bookkeeping for his feed-grinding business.

While still in high school I worked at Russel's Bakery at the counter and also cleaning the baking equipment. Later, when I was married, they provided a lovely wedding cake for my wedding.

I met my future husband Harlan Geerdes while roller skating at Spencer and the Lakes, a very popular activity of teens and young adults in our dating years. I was employed at Bjornstad's Drugs in Spencer at the time. Harlan and I had a mutual friend named Adeline who also worked there, and we had some great times together. Wednesday and Saturday nights were especially busy. Our most popular soda fountain drink was the "Garbage Can" which consisted of a shot of all of the syrups mixed with soda. Howard Borchard, who worked at Gambles at the time was a frequent customer.

Harlan and I were married at St. Paul's on October 1, 1952. We lived in a tenant house for several months and then moved to the Geerdes' where our children were born. We had Debbie, Becky, Tammy, Dawn, and Gary. I was a stay-at-home mom until Gary was five. Then I began working at the Hartley Drug Store for pharmacists Walter Ronfeldt and Wally Tschopp who later started a medical equipment business named Med-Equip. At that time I began working with in-home oxygen services including delivery and set-up.

When I left Med-Equip, I began helping my son-in-law Jon, Dawn's husband, in his Wheelchair Dynamics business for the next 10 years. That's when I enjoyed spending more time with grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Harlan and I were approached by Clay County officials who requested that we take the job of maintaining the Lone Tree Cemetery and we agreed. It was an "elected" position, so I was placed on the Clay County ballot as a result.

We were happily married 67 years when Harlan went to be with the Lord on June 23, 2018. During his life, he spent 2 years in the U.S. Army during the Korean Conflict in both Japan and the last nine months in South Korea. We decided to be married during that time, so he informed my mother, who he referred to as "Mom", that she had one month to get ready for a wedding when he would be on leave for thirty days right before being discharged from the service. While he was in Michigan being released from the Military, we spent a week sight-seeing.

I recently learned that my Great Grandfather, August Zinn was a founder of St. Paul's, so my family has a long history with the church I have attended my entire life. I am grateful to all those who have preserved the preaching and teaching of God's Word in its truth and purity all of these years. It is and always has been my church home and family, so Thank You and God Bless.

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

Sunday, April 2
(Palm Sunday)

2023 Confirmands:

Mia Harders-Morfitt Josiah Nitzel
Easton Teal Camryn Wilson

PUBLIC REVIEW was
Sunday, March 26, during the
9:00 a.m. worship service

*The confirmands, their families, and congregation members
are invited to a reception on Confirmation Sunday, April 2,
hosted by Mary Circle, immediately following worship in the church entryway.*

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SERVICES

Palm Sunday – Sunday, April 2, 9:00 a.m.

Maundy Thursday Communion Worship – Thursday, April 6, 6:30 p.m.

Good Friday Worship – Friday, April 7, 6:30 p.m.

Easter Sunrise Communion Worship – Sunday, April 9, 6:30 a.m.

Sr LYF Easter Morning Breakfast – Sunday, April 9, 7:45 a.m.

Easter Morning Communion Worship – Sunday, April 9, 9:00 a.m.

EASTER LILIES

You are welcome to share an Easter lily to beautify the church altar area in celebration of this Easter season! If you drop off a lily to share, please inform the church office so we can note it in the bulletin announcements. Include your name(s) and if it's given in memory of a loved one.

GOOD FOOD—CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP—EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATION

On April 16, Jim Schroeder from Iowa District West will be here to talk to us about some things that can be of benefit to all of us. Estate plans, setting up wills, the future of St. Paul's and other good information. Each of you should have or will be getting a letter explaining his visit. We are all invited to an omelet brunch (by Red's Cafe) immediately after our morning church service that morning. We hope many of you can attend Jim's short presentation after the meal. Please watch for the letter if you have not received it already. If we have missed any of you in the mailing, please let us know by calling the church office. See you there!

APRIL

♥♥♥♥ WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES ♥♥♥♥

- 2 – Harlyn and Nona Hengeveid 21 – Brett and Kristen Ripke
13 – Bill and Patty Treimer 27 – Allan and Inez Dacken
16 – James and Julie Swenson (40th) 28 – Doug and Bev Nagel

♪♪♪♪ BIRTHDAYS ♪♪♪♪

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 3 – Hoyt Ahrenstorff | 11 – Vickie Roghair | 21 – Shirley Jager
Inez Dacken |
| 4 – Mary Jane Peterson | 12 – Julie Swenson
Jordan Waddell | 24– Jen Waddell |
| 5 – Steve Lux | | 26– Brandon Ripke |
| 6 – Connie Ebel | HAPPY
BIRTHDAY | 30 – Marilyn Tesch
Pierce Adams |
| 7 – David Peters
Nathan Peters | | |
| 8 – Leona Holmes | 18 – Joellen Harders | |

ESL CLASSES TO BEGIN

The Spring session of St. Paul's Christian based ESL classes begins Tuesday, April 11, for six weeks, ending on May 18. Two evenings will be offered for this Spring session - on Tuesday and Thursday, 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm. Prayerfully consider being a part of this exciting new ministry at St. Paul's.

This ESL class was 'born' in a meeting, 'Growing the Ministry of St. Paul's' where different ages of several members met last year to discuss ways to help St. Paul's ministry grow into the future. Ideas were discussed where we could be a blessing to others in our community and surrounding areas.

The students will be learning English to better their chances of being successful citizens of America, and also becoming closer to God in the pre-class singing of praise songs in English and Spanish, followed by prayer.

The volunteers will be the Hands and Feet of God for these short six weeks and will be blessed in ways not anticipated. Instructors will be teaching English (you will be paired with a Spanish speaking teacher in your class). Other ways to help include providing snacks for the classes, helping in daycare if parents bring their children and PRAYING for God to work in these classes to bring people closer to our Lord. To God be **ALL THE GLORY** for the success of these classes and bringing students closer to our Lord.

There are sign up sheets on the bulletin board in the middle entrance, if you wish to help in any way. Thank You in advance!

LWML Northwest Zone Spring Rally

Friday, April 28

Board Meeting: 12:30pm – Registration: 12:30 – 1:00 pm – Rally Time: 1:00 pm

Right here at St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Hartley

Guest Speaker: Dr Steve Meyer on his work with STEMM in Tanzania

Ingathering: monetary donations to Siouxland Tanzania Educational Medical Ministries (STEMM)

"Called by the Gospel" – Romans 8:28

APRIL / MAY

SERVING SCHEDULES

GREETERS

April 2 (Palm S./Confirmation) – Ron and Carolyn Rubsam
April 6 (MThurs) – Marilyn Honken and Judy Kuskie
April 7 (Good Fri) – Cliff and Shirley Ripke
April 9 (6:30am Sunrise) – Mark and Sue Schulz
April 9 (9am Easter) – Rick and Vickie Roghair
April 16 – Allan and Inez Dacken

April 23 – Bill and Patty Treimer
April 30 – Brad and Betty Harms
May 7 – Duane and Dee Kolpin
May 14 – Paul and Kathi Unterbrink
May 21 – Wade and Stephanie Gebert
May 28 – Pat McCarty and Marilyn Honken

COMMUNION

Set-up

April 2 (Confirmation) – Allan and Inez Dacken
April 6 (MThurs) – Ed and Jo Harders
April 9 (6:30am Sunrise) – Ron and Carolyn Rubsam
April 9 (9am Easter) – Bill and Patty Treimer
April 16 – Mark and Sue Schulz
May 7 – Gordon and Roxie Williamson
May 21 – Ed and Jo Harders

Clean-up

Rodney and Dyan Roth
Rick and Vickie Roghair
Gene and Shelley Hjeltn
Brad and Betty Harms
Allan and Inez Dacken
Wally and Becky Tschopp
Marilyn Honken and Judy Kuskie

USHERS

April 6 (6:30pm)

Jesse Benz (H)
Aiden Nitzel
Bill Treimer

April 7 (6:30pm)

David Peters (H)
Ben Waddell
Rick Roghair

April 9 (6:30am Sunrise)

Ty Waddell (H)
Doug Nagel
Wade Gebert
Wally Tschopp

April 9 (9am Easter)

Kent Billings (H)
Gene Hjeltn
Leroy Raabe
Dennis Ebel

April 16

Jesse Benz (H)
Ed Harders
Al Dacken

April 23

David Peters (H)
Gordon Williamson
Bill Pippy

April 30

Kent Billings (H)
Bill Treimer
Doug Nagel

May 7

Ty Waddell (H)
Ben Waddell
Wade Gebert
Allan Dacken

May 14

Jesse Benz (H)
Ed Harders
Aiden Nitzel

May 21

David Peters
Joe Billings
Alex Billings

CAMERA OPERATORS

April 2 (Palm S./Confirmation) – Bill Treimer
April 6 (MThurs) – Joe Billings
April 7 (Good Fri) – Aiden Nitzel
April 9 (6:30am Sunrise) – Brad Harms
April 9 (9am Easter) – Bill Treimer / Alex Billings
April 16 – Doug Nagel

April 23 – Aiden Nitzel
April 30 – Joe Billings
May 7 – Brad Harms
May 14 – Bill Treimer
May 21 – Doug Nagel
May 28 – Aiden Nitzel

ACOLYTES

April 2 (Palm S./Confirmation) – Hunter Ahrenstorff
April 6 (MThurs) – Camryn Wilson
April 7 (Good Fri) – Easton Teal
April 9 (6:30am Sunrise) – Alayna Benz
April 9 (9am Easter) – Kate Billings
April 16 – Mia Harders

April 23 – Josiah Nitzel
April 30 – Hunter Ahrenstorff
May 7 – Camryn Wilson
May 14 – Easton Teal
May 21 – Alayna Benz
May 28 – Kate Billings

FELLOWSHIP SERVERS

April 2 – (Confirmation Reception)
April 9 – (Easter Breakfast)
April 16 – Mark and Sue Schulz
April 23 – Allan and Inez Dacken
April 30 – Rodney and Dyan Roth

May 7 – Gordon and Roxie Williamson
May 14 – Bill and Rhonda Pippy
May 21 – Bill and Patty Treimer
May 28 – Rick and Vickie Roghair



Happy Easter

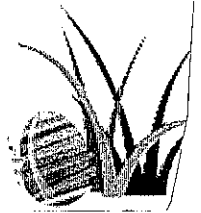


St. Paul's Lutheran Church

60 N Central Ave
Hartley, IA 51346
Office: 712-728-2711

Pastor Chris Nitzel
Cell Phone: 712-363-5433
Parsonage: 712-728-2890

APRIL 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
<i>Palm Sunday / Confirmation</i> 2 9:00am Communion Worship (Confirmation) 10:00am Confirmation Reception 10:15am NO SS/Adult Bible Class	3	4	5 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Choir Practice	<i>Holy Thursday</i> 6 1:00pm Ladies Aid 6:30pm Maundy Thurs Communion Worship	<i>Good Friday</i> 7 6:30pm Good Friday Worship	8
<i>The Resurrection of Our Lord</i> 9 6:30pm Easter Sunrise Communion Worship 7:30-9am LYF Easter Breakfast 9:00am Easter Morning Communion Worship	10 6:30pm Rachel Circle	11 6:30-8:30 ESL Classes	12 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Choir practice	13 6:30-8:30pm ESL Classes	14	15
<i>Second Sunday of Easter</i> 16 9:00am Communion Worship 10:00am Brunch catered by Red's Café —Followed by presentation by Jim Schroeder, LCMS Foundation	17 9:30am Mary Circle 6:30pm Card Crew	18 6:30-8:30 ESL Classes	19 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Choir practice	20 6:30-8:30pm ESL Classes	21	22 10:00-11:30am Come-and-Go Bridal Shower for Valerie Treimer
<i>Third Sunday of Easter</i> 23 9:00am Morning Worship 10:00am Fellowship Time 10:15am SS/Adult Bible Class	24 6:00pm Elders Meeting 7:00pm Church Council	25 6:30-8:30 ESL Classes	26 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Choir practice	27 6:30-8:30pm ESL Classes	28	29 1:30pm LWML NW Zone Rally, St Paul's, Hartley (12:30 Board Meeting / Registration)
<i>Fourth Sunday of Easter</i> 30 9:00am Morning Worship 10:00am Fellowship Time 10:15am SS/Adult Bible Class						