

OCTOBER 2024 NEWSLETTER



ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH

HARTLEY, IOWA

Rev. Chris Nitzel, Pastor

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St. Paul's Church Council Meeting September 17, 2024

Church Council met on Tuesday, September 17, at 7:00 pm. Those present: Pastor Nitzel, Bill Treimer, Leroy Raabe, Ed Harders, Dyan Roth, Donna Ahlers, Doug Nagel, Justin Weber and Patty Treimer.

VP Bill Treimer called the meeting to order. Pastor shared devotions from James 3:13-18. Easier said than done! Situations are hard because of sin. We can handle difficult times with God's gifts. Pastor led us in prayer.

We all introduced ourselves to the 'new guy' Justin Weber, our DCE intern.

We enjoyed pumpkin cake provided by Dyan Roth. And sang 'Happy Birthday' to Pastor!!

The minutes of the August 20 meeting were approved as distributed.

Treasurer Report: Vickie Roghair shared the balance of today's checkbook with 69% of the budget used. She updated us on transactions of several special accounts.

Finance Report: Donna Ahlers reported offering was counted twice this month.

Elders Report: Topic of elders meeting topic was working on the new budget. The Nominating Committee has met and contacted members and most of the ballot is ready to go.

Education Report: Justin reported for Education Board that he and Pastor will temporarily take on superintendent duties until we have a new person in that role. Pancakes in the Park was held last Sunday to kick off Sunday School. Sunday School teachers are mostly in place.

Stewardship Report: Leroy stated that letters have been sent to church boards to start collecting any changes for the 2025 budget. The Time and Talent forms are ready for distribution in the October Newsletter.

Evangelism Report: Dyan shared that the upcoming fall schedule is a busy time of year! Bingo night is on Sunday, September 29, and an outdoor movie night on Saturday, October 12, Trunk or Treat, the Gem and Junque sale, the Veterans supper, and beginning ESL classes on September 30 are upcoming activities.

Trustees Report: Doug shared that all windows are finished in the basement by Larry Towne. The new organ will be installed in the next few weeks. Some construction and electrical work has begun to prepare for it. The organ will be installed on the lower level of the sanctuary.

Pastor's Report: September 23-24, Pastor and DCE intern Justin Weber will be attending the Pastors Conference. Advent materials have arrived and are ready for the season.

Old Business: After meeting with Dave Peters a few days ago, Dave determined that an increase in the hard drive to make the computer faster would be all that we will need to update the office programs right now. Because we only use the basic Quickbooks record keeping and don't use the Quickbooks payroll backup program, Dave felt no updating is necessary right now.

The next Voters meeting will be on October 20, which will allow Council (scheduled to meet on October 15) to look at updated 2025 budget prior to being presented to the Voters.

Next meeting is Tuesday, October 15. The meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Patty Treimer
Council Secretary

Please Note!

Voter's Quarterly Meeting

Sunday, October 20
10:00 a.m.

(immediately following worship)

Agenda: Review of 2025 budget; Election of 2025 officers

“GET TO KNOW” OUR HISPANIC FAMILIES WHO ARE PART OF OUR ST. PAUL’S FAMILY ...

Noel Chavarria

Hello! My name is Noel Chavarria, I am 50 years old, I was born on November 1, 1973, I am the penultimate of 7 children, I was born in Managua, Nicaragua. I am also an ESL student at St. Paul’s. My parents were people of very few resources, with many limitations for us, they raised us with many sacrifices, under a very decadent, scarce economic system, full of poverty, making a great effort to get us ahead, forming in us values such as: self-love and to others, respect, honesty, service, unity, fear of God among others.

At the age of 10 I was diagnosed with a terminal illness, which affected my development as a person, since I was inconsistent in my studies. The diagnosis said that I would live at most 20 years. This illness affected my physique, my teeth, my auditory system, among other parts of my body, having to deal with those consequences to this day. But one day my mother’s prayers were answered by the Creator, sending a small business that my mother had in which I helped a minister of God, who prayed for me and that day I was healed, 26 years ago. I was healed and since then I have served God.

I began to study the word of God, to update my studies but at that time I got married and had children, I was no longer able to finish my university studies, initially I worked independently, then I got a job in an insurance agency, I started washing cars and become a company executive, I took the opportunity to enter the theological seminary, where I completed: the diploma, the baccalaureate and the degree in theology, simultaneously serving as an evangelical pastor ordained by the Presbyterian mission in my country, developing as a missionary, achieving build several churches at the urban and rural level.

Since then, my dreams, desires and goals are to serve in the work of God teaching his word so that people know God, his love, his forgiveness, his promises, and his purposes for each of us. I feel grateful and proud of my parents, we as brothers, promote unity and family bond, and cultivate that feeling in our children.

One of the hard experiences in my life was when my father passed away, 22 years ago and I still feel his absence, I thank God for my 4 children, I have a boy and 3 girls, they serve God too and that gives me peace, because I have faced a great challenge as a minister of God and that is to find the balance between family and ministry, I think that if I am not able to guide my family to Christ I have not achieved the main objective as a minister of God.

My wife has been a great blessing in my life because she has supported me at all times, morally, economically and spiritually. She has worked making girls’ dresses. I am also very proud of My four children and grateful to God for giving them to me. My oldest son has a degree in engineering and works in a financial company. One daughter has a degree in marketing and works in a bank. My other daughter has a degree in business administration and also works in a bank. My youngest daughter is beginning her studies at the university, studying psychology.

In the struggle to raise my family, I incurred several debts to start some businesses. Which did not work out due to political problems that affected the entire population and followed by the Covid 19 pandemic, which left me with a large debt. Due to my economic situation, looking for alternatives to solve it, the opportunity arose to travel to this country through humanitarian parole, being authorized by immigration to live and work in this country for two years. I have been working, during which time I have managed to solve 85% of my debts, and to be able to save something to return to my country and with the opportunity to create some type of business that allows me to move forward and be a blessing to other people.

Initially I was living in Carroll, IA, where I met Pastor Pedro López, through the ESL program, who unconditionally gave me his help, and then extended his ministry, appointing me a Deacon in his ministry. Being able to support him in the various churches that he serves has been a blessing to me as I appear before the district authorities. He has made me feel useful and blessed in the work of God.

In Carroll, I stopped working for health reasons, and Pastor López supported me by getting me a job here in Hartley, at the CFE company, so I moved to live in this city, where I also met Pastor Nitzel, who gave me his support. He and the entire St. Paul’s congregation have been a blessing to me. The people I interact with both at work and at church are very nice, kind, helpful, they make me feel good, in a familiar warmth, and all of that produces gratitude to God on my part. I hope in God that they maintain that human warmth because that is what the work of God is about: “Love one another as I have loved you” John 13: 34. I take this opportunity to advise readers two things:

1. Seek God as long as He can be found.
2. Remain in Him doing His will.

From here all other things are derived, whether they are: spiritual, material or financial blessings; health, love, family, spiritual growth, intellectual morality. Keeping in mind that everything begins and ends in God, He said: “I am the alpha and the omega, the beginning and the end” Revelation 1:8. We must keep in mind that:

In Him the impossible does not exist.

In Him we are more than conquerors.

Being in Him we can do everything.

In Him we find: peace, blessing and eternal life

Thank you for allowing me to share some general outlines of my life and how I arrived at Hartley, Iowa. God bless you.

SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER

SERVING SCHEDULES

GREETERS

October 6 – Dean and Mary Jane Peterson
October 13 – Brad and Beth Fear
October 20 – Cliff and Shirley Ripke
October 27 – Dee and Duane Kolpin
November 3 – Kathy Luedke and Ellen Treimer
November 10 – Bill and Patty Treimer
November 17 – Pastor Dave and Kathy
November 24 – Brad and Betty Harms
November 27 (7:00pm) – Jeremy and Charlie Walters

COMMUNION

Set-up
October 6 – Brad and Betty Harms
October 20 – Gordon and Roxie Williamson
November 3 – Mark and Sue Schulz
November 17 – Gene and Shelley Hjelm

Clean-Up
Rick and Vickie Roghair
Rod and Dyan Roth
Ed and Jo Harders
Allan and Inez Dacken

USHERS

October 6 Gordon W. (H) Gene Hjelm Bill Treimer Brad Fear	October 13 David Treimer (H) Easton Teal Leroy Raabe	October 20 Ty Waddell (H) Alex Billings Mark Schulz Doug Nagel	October 27 Jeremy Walters (H) Josiah Nitzel Dean Peterson
November 3 Bill Pippy (H) Wally Tschopp Easton Teal Rick Roghair	November 10 Kent Billings (H) Bill Treimer Jesse Benz Leroy Raabe	November 17 Gordon W. (H) Doug Nagel Dean Peterson	November 24 David Treimer (H) Mark Recher Allan Dacken Alex Billing
			November 27 (T'giving Eve) Ty Waddell (H) Gene Hjelm Brad Fear

CAMERA OPERATORS

October 6 – Alex Billings
October 13 – Doug Nagel
October 20 – Josiah Nitzel
October 27 – Bill Treimer
November 3 – Brad Harms
November 10 – Alex Billings
November 17 – Doug Nagel
November 24 – Bill Treimer
November 27 (7:00pm) – Josiah Nitzel

ACOLYTES

October 6 – Simeon N.
October 13 – Hoyt A.
October 20 – Hayden B.
October 27 – MacKenzie W.
November 3 – Ellisyn S.
November 10 – Sydney W.
November 17 – Hunter E.
November 24 – Simeon N.
November 27 (7:00pm) – Hoyt A.

FELLOWSHIP SERVERS

October 6 – Bill and Rhonda Pippy
October 13 – Gordon and Roxie Williamson
October 20 – Mark and Sue Schulz
October 27 – Ed and Jo Harders
November 3 – Allan and Inez Dacken
November 10 – Wally and Becky Tschopp
November 17 – Cliff and Shirley Ripke
November 24 – Brad and Betty Harms



GARAGE SALE




St. Paul's Gem and Junque Sale

is right around the corner – Saturday, November 1,
from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

(Watch the bulletin announcements for details on drop-off dates and how you can assist!)



OCTOBER 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>St. Paul's Lutheran Church 60 N Central Ave Hartley, IA 51346 Office: 712-728-2711</p>		1	2	3	4	5
			9:30am Prayer Group 10:00am Bible Study	6:30pm ESL Classes		
			5:00pm Choir Practice 6:00pm Confirmation			
<i>Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost</i> 6 9:00am Communion Worship 10:00am Fellowship Time 10:15am SS/Adult Bible Class	7 9:00am POP Meeting 6:30pm ESL Classes	8 6:00pm LWML Meeting (Soup & Dessert Supper Fundraiser for HCMHC)	9 9:30am Prayer Group 10:00am Bible Study 5:00pm Choir Practice 6:00pm Confirmation	10 6:30pm ESL Classes	11	12 11am-1pm LYF Field Meal served St. Paul's Outdoor Movie Night!
<i>Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost</i> 13 9:00am Morning Worship 10:00am Fellowship Time 10:15am SS/Adult Bible Class	14 6:30pm ESL Classes 6:30pm Rachel Circle	15 6:00pm Elders Meeting 7:00pm Church Council	16 9:30am Prayer Group 10:00am Bible Study 5:00pm Choir Practice 6:00pm Confirmation	17 6:30pm ESL Classes	18	19
<i>Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost</i> 20 9:00am Communion Worship 10:00am Voters Meeting 10:15am Fellowship Time 10:15am SS/Adult Bible Class	21 9:30am Mary Circle 6:30pm ESL Classes	22	23 9:30am Prayer Group 10:00am Bible Study 5:00pm Choir Practice 6:00pm Confirmation	24 6:30pm ESL Classes	25	26
<i>Reformation Day</i> 27 9:00am Morning Worship (LWML Sunday) 10:00am Fellowship Time 10:15am SS/Adult Bible Class 11:00am Gem&Junque Set-up	28 6:30pm ESL Classes	29	30 9:30am Prayer Group 10:00am Bible Study 5:00pm Choir Practice 6:00pm Confirmation	31 3-5pm Trunk-or-Treat Event! Gem&Junque Drop Off	(November 1) Gem&Junque Drop Off	(November 2) 9am-3pm Gem & Junque Sale