

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
22163 Sumac Road
Neola, IA 51559-5069

*Saving a seat for you and your family.
The peace of the Lord be with you always.*

May 2023 News

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
(Boomer Township)
22163 SUMAC ROAD, NEOLA, IA 51559
Church Number: 402-915-2495

Email: stpsecretary3123@gmail.com

Website: stpaulsneola.church

Join us for worship Sunday mornings at 9:30

*Just a reminder if you are not able to make it to Sunday Services they are still being
streamed on our Facebook page.*

Facebook: [@STPaulNeola](https://www.facebook.com/STPaulNeola) 

**Bible study will be held Sunday mornings at 8:15-8:45 in the church basement
Saturday's @ 7:30 am - Men's Prayer Group**

If you are not receiving emails, and would like to, send an email to stpsecretary3123@gmail.com or officemanager@stpaulsneola.church

The Mission Of St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Share the Good News of Jesus Christ and to make disciples of all nations. therefore, with God's help, we will:

Proclaim Christ in word and deed;

Invite the unchurched to "Come and See Jesus";

Commit ourselves to discipleship through Bible study, worship, prayer, Christ-like servanthood and fellowship;

Open ourselves to the Holy Spirit's leading, so that whatever we do, we do in Jesus' name.

Amen

May Celebrations....

(please let Emily Pruett know of any new birthdays or anniversaries)

Caleb & Rashelle Wohlers-

5/4/13

Harper Pruett- 5/12

Brinley Jenson- 5/12

Will Wohlers- 5/15

Anna Murphy- 5/25

Lyla Murphy- 5/26

Upcoming Sunday's

May 7; Fifth Sunday of Easter

Reader: Steve Andersen

Acts 6:1-9; 7:2a, 51-60 Psalm 146 1 Peter 2:2-10 John 14:1-14

May 14; Sixth Sunday of Easter (Mother's Day)

Reader: Monte Bracker

Acts 17:16-31 Psalm 66:8-20 1 Peter 3:13-22 John 14:15-21

May 21st; Seventh Sunday of Easter

Reader: Emily McKern

Acts 1:12-26 Psalm 68:1-10 1 Peter 4:12-19; 5:6-11 John 17:1-11

May 28th; Pentecost

Reader: Bruce Bracker

Numbers 11:24-30 Psalm 25:1-15 Acts 2:1-21 John 7:37-39

June 4th; Holy Trinity

Reader: Terri Andersen

Genesis 1:1—2:4a Psalm 8 Acts 2:14a, 22-36 Matthew 28:16-20

June 11th; Second Sunday after Pentecost

Reader: Harriette Andersen

Hosea 5:15 - 6:6 Psalm 119:65-72 Romans 4:13-25 Matthew 9:9-13



Sunday School

May 7th (End of Sunday School Celebration)

Thanks to all our volunteers this year for helping out with Sunday School. This was the first year of trying Sunday School in this way and it worked well. We look forward to starting this again in the Fall.



We are looking for some volunteers to clean the church. It takes about an hour and a half just once a week. If you would be interested in taking on a month or two please let Julie Jenson know. You can get a group together and it will be done in no time!

Pastor's Page

May 2023

People often want to decide things without examining all the information surrounding that decision carefully. So as not to place the blame in someone else's corner and make it appear as if I'm not subject to the same frailty, I have to make it personal. Anybody caring to join me can read along – with feeling:

I often want to decide things without examining all the information surrounding that decision carefully.

There, how does that feel? The fault is mine when I fail to be sensitive to History (How did I do it last time I faced this decision? Am I really thinking through this or just repeating myself – even though I might have made a mistake?)

The fault is mine when I fail to be sensitive to who I really am. (I am a child of God! Does my decision reflect Jesus who creates and redeems me out of love and for his glory. Am I behaving in a way that is consistent with my eternal identity?)

The fault is mine when I decide for myself what is right and what is wrong. (2023 sounds a lot like the conclusion of the book of Judges: “In those days there was no king in Isarel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes.” We say and sing that Jesus is Lord. Does his word and will speak clearly to me and do I live in harmony with it?)

The fault is mine when I fail to consider the consequences of my words or actions. (I know that I and other people will be affected by what I do and don't do. I can't know all of the effects of my behavior. I do know the effects that I have already caused and experienced. Perhaps I can modify my behavior in hopes of a better outcome.)

At St. Paul's we are moving forward. And we believe that God is raising up someone who will serve as our pastor and bring blessings for many years to our community. In the meantime grieve the things that are gone and are going that we will certainly miss even when we appreciated them. Then build a vision and a future that is consistent with that vision. Take small steps but always in the right direction. Worship is our current point of contact. Be sure to be part of the worshiping community now so that we all may participate in the fruitful future that God has in mind as He, in His love and faithfulness keeps raising us from the dead. Not resilient – but redeemed and resurrected.

Jesus our King says, “I am the Way and the Truth and the Life! No one comes to the Father except through me!” Awesome brothers and sisters. Let's follow in faith where he leads us.

See you at worship this week!

Please fill this out and return to the church as soon as you finish. Thanks

St Paul's Lutheran Church Property Questionnaire

What do you like about the physical structure of our church and/or layout of the property?

Put yourself into the shoes of a potential new member... As that "new" person, what area(s) do you think could be improved?

Now as a person who is more familiar with the property, what areas need to be improved?

How much do you think the improvements you've suggested would cost?

Where do you think the funds to improve the property should come from?

If you are able/called to contribute to site improvements, how would you choose to do this? (ie labor, monetary contributions, prayers, etc)

In order to do God's simple, yet profound work, everyone must do their part. Contributing your time, your talent and your treasure is not about giving gifts equal to that of your neighbor, but in giving equal sacrifice. This idea comes from the Bible's teaching about proportionate giving and the blessings of sacrifice. No gift impresses God in terms of dollar amounts given, number of hours spent, or amount of talent provided. God looks at gifts as an extension of the love and obedience with which they are given and proportion of resources from which they come. In other words, God looks at the heart.

Please join us in prayer, study, and worship. Begin now to pray that God will guide St. Paul's and leave Christ's imprint on individual hearts. Ask God to keep us on the path of obedience and trust. Please remember that your experience with personal sacrifice is not a one-time check or contribution, but a profound way of giving through your time, talent and treasure.

Thank you so much for being a part of St Paul's Church Family. Your input is valuable as we continue to look to the future of our church.