

GRASS MOWING AND FELLOWSHIP- A GOOD MIXTURE

It must have been the long green grass waving in a breeze plus his sister, Anne Lee, that brought Paul Blixrud into the front door of All Saints Lutheran Church six years ago. That and the fellowship and the traditional Lutheran doctrine he had been learning all his life beginning in his birth state of Minnesota. His family moved from Minnesota, to South Dakota, back to Minnesota, to Jefferson City, Missouri before finally moving to Kansas City (Blue Springs) because of his father's work with the federal government. His sister, Anne Lee, is the most important reason for Paul joining All Saints, because having a closely knit family nearby is a must for Paul.

He is employed as the City Clerk for the City of Lake Tapawingo and is divorced with no children. His memories of family vacations and family gatherings are still vivid parts of his life, and the family continues to congregate whenever possible. Paul found the fellowship and welcoming attitude of All Saints to be just what he needed. And when a request for someone to tackle that huge expanse of lawn came up, Paul knew he was the person to do it. He has help from Ron Miller and others as there is plenty of grass to cut. In addition to lawn care, Paul is seen carrying and setting up tables and chairs for church dinners. At Christmas he is always helpful in decorating the Christmas tree that flanks the podium and all the other decorations in the sanctuary.

In addition, Paul finds the members of All Saints are either like minded in their thinking, or will be respectful of someone with a differing opinion. He describes his most difficult time was when his father died of a heart attack at age 62. That was hard on Paul emotionally, and since he is approaching that age, he makes sure that he has the proper medical attention. His father had been (and still is) an important part of the family; as on frequent trips and vacations which included his four daughters and Paul, the only son. Paul admits that he has not always been a faithful follower of Christ. Following his father's death is when he began to grow in the Christian and Lutheran faith again.

Paul wants people to remember him as being a positive, helpful person who is happy and content with his life. His aim is to enable others to feel good, and is fortunate that he has had so many happy times with his family and friends. For that Paul is grateful. Just look for the tall grayish blond haired fellow with the big smile and call "Paul." He will come and help you any way he can.