

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.*

January 2022 News

**ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
(Boomer Township)**

**Join us for worship Sunday mornings at 9:30
*the church is open for services or you can join us virtually through our
facebook page***

**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**

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Josh Bracker, Cong. President**

**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

(Please let Emily know if I missed your Birthday or Anniversary so it can be added to our master list. You are important and we want to share it!!)

January 30th: Happy Birthday Wendy Matson



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 

2022 Annual Congregational Meeting will be held January 23rd following church service. All members are welcome to attend. We will livestream the meeting as well.

There will be a potluck following the meeting.

Prepare yourself for worship. Take some time to read the passages we will be hearing Sunday,

January 2, 2021 *Communion*

First Lesson: 1 Kings 3:4-15

Psalm: 119:97-104

Second Lesson: Ephesians 1:3-14

Gospel: Luke 2:40-52

Reader this week is ...

Monte Bracker

January 9, 2021

First Lesson: Isaiah 43:1-7

Psalm: 29

Second Lesson: Romans 6:1-11

Gospel: Luke 3:15-22

Reader this week is ...

Carol Jensen

January 16, 2021 *Communion*

First Lesson: Isaiah 62: 1-5

Psalm: 128

Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 12: 1-11

Gospel: John 2:1-11

Reader this week is ...

Bruce Bracker

January 23, 2020:

First Lesson: Nehemiah 8: 1-3, 5-6, 8-10

Psalm: 19: 1-14

Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31

Gospel: Luke 4:16-30

Reader this week is ...

Steve Andersen

January 30, 2021

First Lesson: Jeremiah 1:4-10 (17-19)

Psalm: 71:1-6 (7-11)

Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 12: 31- 13:13

Gospel: Luke 4:31-44

Reader this week is ...

Terri Anderson

Pastor's Page

January 2022

So much joy in December and I was glad to be a part of it here at St. Paul's Lutheran. As the new kid in town you all welcomed me and made me a part of your community where Jesus is proclaimed and lived out. Thank you for being a faithful testimony to me. But now, with the celebration and the beginning of the new year – along with the inevitable snow and cold – it's time to move on the road that God has placed before us, understanding who we are and holding on to the mission to which we are called. To that

end I want to have conversations with as many people in the congregation as possible in January and February.

I love responding to invitations and I am willing to meet anybody, anywhere. I can meet you at the parsonage or at the church. I'll meet you where you live or where you work or where you play. We can eat while we talk but we don't need to. If you come to my place I won't have coffee ready. I don't drink it much and I just never think of it. I hope you don't think it is thoughtless of me. Wherever we meet I want to treat you as a beloved child of God. So call me at 515-835-1755 and if I don't answer, please leave a message and I will return your call as soon as I can.

I have a poor reputation for making cold calls so please don't expect me to show up at your house uninvited.

Here are some questions to consider over the next couple of months:

What kind of reputation does our congregation have among its own members?

What kind of reputation does our congregation have in our community outside of our membership?

What kind of reputation would you (personally) like our congregation to have?

What is one suggestion you (personally) have to help our congregation achieve that reputation?

In my mind, and keep in mind I have a male brain and am pretty incapable of thinking of more than one thing at a time, that's a lot to think about for now. As the days get longer I'll give you something else to think about.

In the meantime I hope to see many at worship also. This week we will go to Jerusalem and listen to a 12 year old Jesus whose heart and mind are full of the word of God. We as God's children are also called to express the hope that we hold in our lives whenever anyone asks us.

Being in fellowship with your brothers and sisters in Christ, singing his songs, hearing his word praying together, sharing in his supper, are all good ways to remember your story, affirm your story and figure out how to tell your story. God wants you to know who he is, who you are and how he loves you and wants you to be his forever. He is a great and perfect God. Without his grace you are a lost and condemned sinner. In Christ you are redeemed, forgiven, being prepared for eternity. Worship, weekly – daily – constantly – keeps you connected. In Christ! Bring the kids.

See you at worship (every time I see you) this week!

Your brother in Christ!

+ Joe Lambert +

December 2021 Meeting Minutes

This is the meeting of St Paul's Lutheran Church held on Tuesday, December 14th, 2021 in the basement of the church. Council members present: Josh Bracker, Steve Andersen, Dale Stephens, Bob Gregory, Julie Jenson, Ruben Valdez, Ava Bracker, and Rashelle Wohlers.

Not present: Jim Jenson

Also present: Pastor Joe Lambert

Josh, as President, conducted the meeting

Opening Prayer by Pastor Joe Lambert.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting read by Secretary. Motion to approve by Julie, 2nd by Bob, all in favor, motion passes.

Treasurer's Report was reviewed. Motion to approve by Dale Stephens, 2nd by Steve Andersen, all in favor, motion passes.

Pastor's Report was given verbally. He and his wife, Gracie, are committed to our church for the next two years, but we are not locked to them if a new pastor thru the Call Committee is found. They do not want us to feel like they're going to leave at any time. Motion to approve Pastor's Verbal Report by Steve Andersen, 2nd by Julie Jenson, all in favor, motion passes.

Old Business:

- Bob Gregory did meet with Jon Narmie about the endowments. To their knowledge, there are no restrictions on what the money can be used on. Monte Bracker, Bob Gregory, and Nancy Hedegaard have the authority to move funds.
- Bruce and Mary Bracker are willing to accompany the council members to the audit.
- Motion by Julie, 2nd by Ava to move the Christmas Caroling to Wednesday, December 22nd at 6:30 PM due to very high winds forecast for tomorrow.

New Business:

- Annual Meeting will be by January 23rd, with Pastor Joe's Installation. There will be a potluck luncheon following the meeting.
- There is an LCMC Congregation in Paducah, KY. Pastor Joe will contact them to see what is needed. A special offering will be taken this next Sunday to be sent to KY to help in the aftermath of the tornadoes.

Next meeting will be Wednesday, January 12th at 6:30 PM.

Motion by Steve Andersen, 2nd by Dale Gregory, to adjourn. All in favor, motion passes.

We closed the meeting by all reciting the Lord's Prayer together.

