

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.*

## *November 2022 News*

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**ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH  
(Boomer Township)  
22163 SUMAC ROAD, NEOLA, IA 51559  
Telephone: (712) 545-3123  
Email: [stpsecretary3123@gmail.com](mailto:stpsecretary3123@gmail.com)**

**Website: [stpaulsneola.church](http://stpaulsneola.church)  
Josh Bracker, Cong. President**

**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** 

**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](mailto:stpsecretary3123@gmail.com) or [officemanager@stpaulsneola.church](mailto: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

***November Celebrations....***

Caleb Wohlers- 11/4

Jami Bracker-11/10

Bill Bracker- 11/18

Hannah Larson- 11/20

Hollie Larson- 11/23

***Upcoming Sunday's***

**November 6;** All Saints Day *communion*

**Reader: Julie Jenson**

*Revelation 7:(2-8) 9-17 Psalm 149 1 John 3:1-3 Matthew 5:1-12*

**November 13;** 23rd Sunday after Pentecost

**Reader: Terri Andersen**

*Malachi 4:1-6 Psalm 98 2 Thessalonians 3:(1-5) 6-13 Luke 21:5-28 (29-36)*

***Harvest Festival***

***Sunday School***

**November 20;** 24th Sunday after Pentecost

**Reader: Monte Bracker**

*Malachi 3:13-18, Psalm 95:1-7a or 46, Colossians 1:13-20, Luke 23:27-43*

**November 27;** First Sunday of Advent

**Reader: Bruce Bracker**

*Isaiah 2:1-5, Psalm 122, Romans 13:(8-10) 11-14, Matthew 24:36-44*

***Sunday School***

**December 4;** Second Sunday of Advent

**Reader: Harriette Andersen**

*Isaiah 11:1-10, Psalm 72:1-7, Romans 15:4-13, Matthew 3:1-12*

**December 11:** Third Sunday of Advent

**Reader: Rashelle Wohlers**

*Isaiah 35:1-10, Psalm 146, James 5:7-11, Matthew 11:2-15*

This is a website we use to get the readings and other materials each week. It has some wonderful information and tools.

[www.solapublishing.com](http://www.solapublishing.com)

**Username:** sower2958

**Password:** stpauls-neola

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!!!!!**

**November 6th 2022**

**6: 30 p.m.**

**THE ARMOURAIRES QUARTET**

**St Paul's will be hosting the music quartet.**

**This group is amazing!!**

**Everyone is invited.. Drinks and desserts will be served .**

St. Paul's will be joining the rotation of the Group 3:16. This is a non-denominational, safe environment for all kids grades 6-8 to explore and learn more about their Christian faith. They welcome kids regardless of their church background. They try to have music and a game of some sort to help relay the message that the kids can relate to. The kids love to have speakers come in and speak with them. The group meets Wednesday nights at one of the 3 churches in the rotation. Dinner is provided by the hosting church and then the kids are broken up into groups for a message/ lesson. St. Paul's will be hosting October 19th, January 4th, February 15th, and April 5th. If you would like more information or would like to volunteer please reach out to Pastor Joe or Kiley Jenson.

We Want You.... to join the Church Council

The council is looking for 3 new members starting in January. The council meets once a month in the basement of the church. The current members are Steve Andersen, Josh Bracker, Monte Bracker, Bill Bracker, Bob Gregory, Julie Jenson, Jim Jenson, Rashelle Wohlers, and Ruben Valdez.



Please let them know if you are interested in joining or ask them any questions about their responsibilities.

### Sunday School

Sunday School will meet during service, right after the youth message. All youth are welcome to join us downstairs for a story, craft and snack. Kids will then return upstairs during the closing hymn.

We are planning a Christmas program that will be performed during the first Christmas Eve service.

### Sunday School Dates are...

November 13th & 27th

December 11th & 18th

January 8th

February 12th

March 12th

April 2nd

May 7th (End of Sunday School Celebration)

Harvest Festival will be November 13th. The guest speaker will be Danny Cox. He will present during service with a pot luck following. Special offerings will go toward his ministry.

Soup Supper was a great turnout this year! Huge thank you to everyone that helped put everything together, worked the night of, and also those who attended. It was a wonderful sight to see so many faces joined in our little church. Congratulations to Gerald Jensen on winning the beautiful quilt this year that was made by Ruth VonStiers. We were able to donate \$1338.00 to local food banks from all the generous donations and raffle tickets.

Remember: **Take small steps but always in the right direction.**

After a lot of small steps we have come around to the beginning of my second year at St. Paul's. For me it has been a joy to travel through time with you all. Seeking God's will by living together and seeking God's word in the mercy of Jesus our Lord is a step. Praying together, constantly and persistently is always the first step of faith. Continue taking the first step every day as long as it is called today. Listen for the voice of Jesus saying "Follow Me!" Test what you think you hear against the words of Jesus that are actually recorded in your Bible! Jesus will not contradict himself by saying something to us that he did not say to his other disciples.

So, arriving at this place we remain confident that God is preparing us for our new pastor and God is preparing our new pastor for us. November has us walking through Reformation, All Saints, the end of the Pentecost season and the first Sunday of Advent. During the past year we've had friends and neighbors lead our worship because God gives gifts of leadership according to the needs of the congregation – and God is faithful among us.

November will begin to see others come and preach God's word among us beginning with Danny Cox on November 13. Others will be coming along after the new year arrives – but maybe sooner. We all will be called to exercise discretion and open communication as God's best plan for our congregation unfolds. Here's how at least part of the path will unfold:

Reformation Sunday: Revelation 14:6-7; Psalm 46; Romans 3:19-28; John 8:31-36

All Saints Sunday: Revelation 7:9-17; Psalm 149; 1 John 3:1-3; Matthew 5:1-12

Pentecost 23: Malachi 4:1-6; Psalm 98; 2 Thessalonians 3:1-13; Luke 21:5-36

Pentecost 24: Malachi 3:13-18; Psalm 95; Colossians 1:13-20; Luke 23:27-43

- And finally -

First Sunday in Advent: Isaiah 2:1-5; Psalm 122; Romans 13:8-14; Matthew 24:36-44

Those are the lessons prescribed by the Lectionary. Maybe they will be modified for Sunday worship but they are worth reading to be prepared to listen for Jesus calling – so read to be prepared. Other small steps we've taken – St. Paul's hosted the 3:16 group and were blessed to have a house full of TriCenter middle schoolers to read and sing and talk and play. We will host 3:16 again! News from the annual LCMC national gathering is available on the LCMC website. Look it up and listen to the speakers. We may be using some of them at the 8:00 Bible Study on Sunday Morning. The Iowa District LCMC meeting is coming up on November 12. The path is prepared and God is faithful. Take small steps but always in the right direction.

I am writing this from a kitchen table in Ogre (pronounced oo-ag-rah) Latvia, just a short distance from my son, Ben and his family. I won't see you at worship this week but I'll be praying with and for you all. **See you at worship in November!**

BTW – It's been dry over here the last part of summer, too, but now it's low 50's and raining almost every day. Typical for Latvia. The kids and Gracie are great.