

SHARING GOD'S UNCONDITIONAL LOVE AND PROMISE IN JESUS CHRIST WITH ALL PEOPLE

THE EPISTLE

WORSHIP TIMES

SUN 9:15 am
THURSDAY 7:00 pm

OFFICE HOURS

MON-THUR 9:00-4:00
FRI 9:00-11:00

WORSHIP SERVICE SCHEDULE PLAN

After holding two forums and receiving written comments regarding our future worship schedule, the congregation council deliberated carefully and prayerfully about whether or not to return to two Sunday services come fall. The council passed the following resolution:

The council approved to return to two services in the fall of 2011 at 8:00 and 10:30; then moving to a single summer service at 9:15 beginning the first Sunday in June 2012 with the expectations of continuing with one service at 9:15 in the Fall of 2012.

Here is the reasoning behind this decision: • **The Council sense is that at this time in our history, worshipping together in one more-full service on Sunday morning is good and positive for the congregation.** • **They sense that staying with things the way we've always done them is not the most faithful nor effective way to respond to changing demographics in culture and church life.** • **They sense that whereas most people have a preference for either one-service or two-services, the vast majority of the congregation is flexible and will adjust their individual practices as necessary.** However, they were moved by the stories of a couple of households who find the earlier hour a genuine hardship in getting ready for worship. Thus, they decided to delay for one year changing the year-around schedule. This will give everybody time to adjust to that reality; and the Council is committed to working with and assisting those for whom the new schedule will be a hardship.

Our 9:15 Summer worship schedule will continue through Labor Day Weekend. On September 11, we will return to Sunday worship services at 8:00 and 10:30 for this program year. This schedule will work best as people readily make worship a priority and volunteer for roles such as greeter, lector, and communion assistant, and sit closer together to strengthen our song. Leaders may adjust the two services so each has its own particular flavor.

*As always, we all are encouraged and charged with the responsibility and delight of identifying and inviting and welcoming those we **know who don't currently have a relationship with a worshipping community.***



From Pastor Elizabeth...

One of my cherished routines when I visit my hometown every summer is the annual July 4th birding activity. Every year, I wake up early on the 4th, ride my bike down to the

parking lot next to the river trail at the edge of town, where at 6:30 a.m., the organizers are there to meet us armed with mosquito repellent, a thermos of coffee and fresh-baked muffins. So fortified, **we're led down the river trail** by a local rancher/conservationist, who guides us in catching glimpses of birds and identifying their calls as they flit about their early morning business.

For the past half-dozen years or so, the river trail has been a jewel of the community. This well-designed trail wound through the trees and followed the meandering path of the Musselshell River for a couple of miles or so, complete with marker posts and information sheets. My family members often followed the river walk, enjoying the weather and inspecting the river. A year ago, the trail even won a state-wide award, and its developers were working on plans to expand it.

The bird event was held again this July 4th. But this year, it was different. This year, we had to park along the street, swish our way through a field of weeds, and maneuver through some shoe-sucking mudflats to get to the edge of and peer down into the hole that used to be the parking lot. We walked along the trail – as much as we could – and did a little birding, but most of our attention was focused on the changed landscape around us. We marveled that even in places where the trail had disappeared, those sturdy metal markers were still anchored in place. We found the bridge that connected the trail to the fairgrounds, and which was to be part of the trail expansion, now crippled, one end of the twisted black steel submerged in the rushing river.

Record flooding around my home town, Roundup, Montana, made the national news this summer not once but twice. Eight inches of May rainfall upon this normally arid land [average annual rainfall 13"] combined with the beginnings of heavier-than-usual snowmelt from the mountains caused the normally laconic Musselshell to become an angry, roiling force – trespassing onto fields and roads, seeking to recover the ancient courses from which men had banned it over the decades in the name of development.

I never heard how – if at all – our July 4th guide's ranch had been affected by the flooding. I do know that he was the prime mover behind the now ruined river trail. **He'd developed the vision, he'd written the grants and raised the money, he'd contributed his own sweat to the project.**

Surely, he must have done his share of grieving over the lost trail. But on the morning of our tour, **I didn't** hear that. I heard curiosity and wonder and awe as he speculated about the new trees and wildlife that would spring up out of this flood, as he exclaimed, **"This river has changed forever," as he reported grant-writing efforts to pay for aerial study of the river's and flood's evolution** over the course of the season. Rather than focusing on **the loss and on what won't be the same again**, he was looking forward in anticipation to an unknown future that nobody would have chosen, but which was inevitable, and which hid its own treasures.

This man's attitude was amazing. And it's held a lesson for me.

Over the past few years, **I've spent plenty of** time moaning and groaning and grieving over the displacement of church in our society, and the displacement of church-life in the habits of Christian people. I love church-life-as-we-know-it, and am alarmed at the rate **with which it's all getting swept away.** I hear similar grief from some of you in response to the proposal to change **"your" worship time by one hour. It's unsettling, it's unwelcome, it's fraught with uncertainty and unknowns.**

I've been afraid for the future of the Church.

But a Montana rancher's long view in the face of a flood's devastation holds wisdom for us in the Church. First, **God's activity in the world isn't going to get flooded out.** Although nobody (not even the experts, the leading-edge folks, or the scholars) knows exactly what the Church of the future will look like, there definitely *will* be a Church in the future. It mostly likely will have several **manifestations that we wouldn't recognize today, and we're going to have to stretch our vision of what Church is and how it does its work.** **But Christ's Church won't die. God's redemptive work in this world will get done. And God's inviting us to be a part of it. We don't have to be afraid. We have only to let go of that which doesn't exist anymore, turn our attention and focus to the future, watch for hidden treasure and trust God's awesome, transformative power.**

EVENTS

EVENTS IN AUGUST

- Aug 1 CROP Planning, 6:30
- Aug 2 Committees Meet, 7:00
- Aug 7 Purpose Team Meet, 2:30
- Aug 8 Whittier PTA Blood Drive in FH, 3:00
- Aug 9 Stewardship Committee Meet, 4:30
- Aug 11 Executive Meeting, 5:00
- Aug 11/14 Blessing of the Backpacks at Worship
- Aug 16 Council Meeting, 7:00
- Aug 17 Block Party Meeting, 5:00
- Aug 21 Purpose Team Meet, 2:30
- Aug 21 Epistle Deadline
- Aug 28 Block Party at Clinton Park (No Community Meal)

COMING UP

- Sep 5 Office Closed, Labor Day
- Sep 11 Resume Two Worship Services, 8:00 & 10:30
- Sep 11 Rally Day
- Oct 9 CROP Walk



READING THE BIBLE TOGETHER.

Even as we move through Genesis, the Bible-reading group is on the move, looking for the ideal venue where we can read comfortably but also be visible to others. In August, **we're meeting at** The Corner Deli 10:00-11:00 on Tuesdays. Just bring yourself and your bible; only those who are comfortable doing so are asked to read

"Doctorate Dipping"

What's happening in The Church today? And what does that mean for us here? As Pastor Liggett begins her Doctor of Ministry work, she invites your input and engagement. Please stay after worship (10:30) on Sunday, July 31, to **"dip" into some of what she learned about contemporary trends** from her first week of class, and to wrestle together what this means for us. Also, consider joining the **"Doctorate Dream Team,"** which will gather approximately monthly to continue the conversation. The value this course of studies has for Saint Paul will rise with *your* engagement!

GROUP MEETINGS

WELCA

Tuesday, August 2, 6:00

HANNAH GROUP

Thursday, August 18
11:45 Candlelight Inn for Lunch
1:30 Lesson at Church
Lesson Leader: Ardena Zirbes

LYDIA CIRCLE

Tuesday, August 9, 7:00

DEBORAH | RUTH GROUP

Monday, August 8
11:30 Culvers for Lunch
1:00 Lesson at Church

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Tuesday, August 2, 8:30 am



Blessing of the Backpacks and Bags

Attention all students, teachers, and school administration and support staff – come and get **YOUR** blessing!

Thursday/Sunday, August 11/14, bring your backpack, briefcase or bag forward, receive a special blessing for your year ahead, and receive a small gift!



On Labor Day Sunday (September 4), bring a symbol of your everyday work (**whether it's paid or not!**) Together, we'll consider how we are blessed by God to be a blessing in our everyday life!

YOUTH NEWS



SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS



Sunday School

RALLY DAY - SEPTEMBER 11

To Saint Paul's Families: Sunday School begins the 2011/2012 year with Rally Day on September 11, 2011, at 9:15 a.m. All children from three years old through 6th grade are welcome. We

use Augsburg's Spark curriculum. Each week there is a Bible story lesson, with crafts, prayer, and music. Children are taught and encouraged in hands on use of the bible. We would love to see your children each week beginning September 11th. God loves us all.

Rally Day

Encouragement and Support for Parents

Today's parents have busy, hectic lives, with tons of pressure for their children to succeed in school and also in extracurricular activities. The homework load increases, the activity level increases and parents ask, "How can I include faith education in my child's life too?"

Faith education in the home doesn't require a lot of extra time. Family devotions are great, but they're not the only way to educate your children in the faith.

Establishing prayer traditions (e.g. praying before meals and/or before bed), recalling biblical stories to teach real truths (the Old Testament story of Samuel was a favorite of our daughter's because it reminded her that children can have messages from God as well), and talking about God's blessings and goodness are all natural ways to encourage your child's growth in faith.

In the baptism service, the parental promises are made so that:

- * your children may learn to trust God,
- * proclaim Christ through word and deed,
- * care for others and the world God made, and
- * work for justice and peace.

Baptism can be an important entry point for pastors and congregations to connect with and support families in practical, emotional and spiritual ways.

Blessings and Peace.

From Seeds for the Parish ELCA Summer 2011



What a fun time we all had at Vacation Bible School!

We had 51 youth join in the fun this year... thanks in part to walking in the 4th of July parade and handing out fliers (our appreciation again to all who helped). Plus a HUGE thank you to our almost 30 volunteers at VBS... we couldn't have done it without YOU!

Blessings and Thanks, Jen Heine and Traci Bailey VBS Coordinators



Habitat
for Humanity®
of Clinton County Inc.

BUILDING A HOUSE - BUILDING HOPE.

Habitat for Humanity is building a house at 322 - 19th Place in Clinton, and they invite you to help! Contact Tami Ivory, Affiliate Coordinator, to get on their email list, or to find out what help is needed on a given weekend.

Contact info is:

Clinton County Habitat for Humanity
PO Box 2282
Clinton, IA 52733-2282
563-242-4494
clintoncountyioawahabitat@yahoo.com
www.clintoncountyioawahabitat.com



NEIGHBORHOOD BLOCK PARTY SUNDAY, AUGUST 28!

Saint Paul joins the downtown faith communities in offering this wonderful day of food, music, games, fellowship, and fun. This year it will be August 28 from 4-6 p.m. at the park across from the Fire Station.

We need a lot of help to make this happen!

There are cookies to bake, tables and chairs to move, food stations to staff, games to staff.

Please sign up on the 'Block Party' easel to help!



Together, we got Jim and Jerry home!

The congregation was challenged to raise for the ELCA World Hunger Appeal \$908 – equivalent to the RAGBRAI miles of two Saint Paul riders, Jim Nelson and Jerry Paisley. Aided by \$180 in VBS

offerings, we surpassed that goal, with a total of \$1054! Although donations in **Jim's name had the slight edge**, the real winners are those around the world whose lives are improved by the ministries of the ELCA Hunger Appeal. Thank you for your faithfulness to this life-saving work!

A HAND UP; NOT A HANDOUT!

Our Annual CROP Walk against Hunger will be October 9, 2011! CROP stands for Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty – and we are blessed to walk to support local and world-wide efforts that do just that. In coming weeks, watch for information as to how you can be involved and make a difference!



MESSAGES

I wish to thank all who sent cards, asked and called after my surgery. I am doing well but not as fast as I wish it would go. The doctor and others who have had the surgery say it will take many months to be really ready to do a schottish. Thanks again -- Vern Larson

*Dear Scholarship Committee,
Thank you very much for selecting me as the recipient of the Marie Hoegh scholarship. It will undoubtedly serve as a vital part of paying for my continuing education. Thank you again! Chris Kennedy*

Colleen and Bob Hoffman are celebrating their 40th Wedding Anniversary on August 14th. Their children are inviting friends and family to send them a card to show their love and congratulations! Please take a moment to pop a card in the mail to let them know you are thinking of them!

Let's make their mailbox overflow with love!

Their address is :

Pastor Bob and Colleen Hoffman
534 E. Lehman Street
Lebanon, PA 17046

What would a CLINTON COMMUNITY GARDEN look like?

SUSTAINABLE CLINTON, the fledgling organization evolving from a year-long series of programs sponsored by the Clinton Franciscan Center for Active Nonviolence and Peacemaking, will offer a vision for the future on Sunday afternoon. Beginning at 2 pm on July 31, Sustainable Clinton will present options for establishing a community garden as one way to promote sustainability and to care for all of creation;

The Sustainable Clinton programs are held monthly at The Canticle, home of the Clinton Franciscans, at 841 -13th Avenue North. They are free and open to the public.

For more information call 563-242-7611 or visit www.clintonfranciscans.com/Sustainable-Clinton.html.

NEW MEMBERS

Calling all Potential New Members: We will be receiving new members in September. If you or somebody you know has been attending worship and is interested in joining the congregation, please speak to Pastor Liggett.



Financial Statements for the first half of 2011 will be in the chapel beginning August 4.

CAN'T ATTEND WORSHIP SUNDAY?

Come to Evening Worship at the Foot of the Bridge every Thursday at 7:00pm in the Chapel. Worship is simple, interactive, and intimate with treats after.



PRAYER CHAIN INFORMATION:

If you have a family member or friend who is ill or in distress and you would like for the members of this group to pray for them, call or email the office 242-4102 | office@saintpaulclinton.org

PRAYER REQUEST CARDS found in the pew racks may be filled out and put in the offering plate. These requests will be passed on to the Prayer Chain.

Please call the church office when your family member or friend has recovered. For more information about the PRAYER CHAIN call Ardena Zirbes, 243-1098 or Barb Larson, 242-8130.

VBS PHOTOS



School Kits for Lutheran World Relief.

The sewing ladies made 101 bags for school kits. Please help fill them. Watch for the following items when back to school supplies are on sale. They may be put in the baskets in the lounge.

- 70 sheet notebooks 8x10 1/2"
- 30 centimeter ruler
- pencil sharpener
- blunt scissors
- erasers
- #2 pencils
- ballpoint pens (no gel ink please)
- crayon (16-24 count)

Thank you. The Women of the ELCA



LET'S MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Fall Gathering Cluster V Women of the ELCA

Saturday, September 17, 2011
 First Lutheran Church, Maquoketa, IA
 Registration and Coffee 8:30-8:55
 Gathering 8:55-12:30, Lunch at Noon
 \$6.50 Lunch, \$2.00 Meeting only

Love Gift: Community Cupboard – monetary donations or paper products.

Offering Cause: Kids Care

Food kits will be assembled for Kids Care during the morning. This is a very worthwhile experience.

If you would like to participate there will be a signup sheet on the small group board in the lounge in August. You need not be an active WELCA member to attend any of our Gatherings. Any questions please contact Roberta Jurgersen at 242-2859

Bread for the World's Offering of Letters

Thank You! To Everyone who wrote letters for Bread for the World's Offering of Letters. These letters have made a big difference throughout the years. You do make a difference!

Service Committee



Thank You to Everyone who brought items and made the beautiful lap robes for the Veterans Home. Barb Larson, Ruth Nelson, Donna Jean Holste and Roberta Jurgersen will be taking them to the Southeastern Iowa Women's Meeting August 6 in Marshalltown.



"If you are disheartened about anything today, forget it. Blow your faith up. Look to the Lord Jesus Christ. Let Him get into you and change your thinking.

Prayer: Our Heavenly Father, we thank You for the greatness of the Christian faith. Help us so to incorporate it into our lives that, having a big God, we shall in turn become big people, strong people who carry out great exploits. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen."

Norman Vincent Peale in "Positive Thinking for Every Day of the Year"

AUGUST 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 6:30 CROP Planning	2 8:30 Men's Breakfast 10:00 Bible Reading 6:00 WELCA 7:00 Committees Meet	3	4 9:00-Noon ARCH in FH 7:00 Worship	5	6
7 9:15 Worship 2:30 Purpose Team	8 10:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Ruth/Deborah Circle PTA Blood Drive in FH	9 10:00 Bible Reading 4:30 Stewardship Meet 7:00 Lydia Meeting	10	11 9:00-Noon ARCH in FH 5:00 Executive Committee 5:00 ARCH in FH 7:00 Worship	12	13
14 9:15 Worship	15 10:00 Prayer Group	16 10:00 Bible Reading 7:00 Council Meeting	17 5:00 Block Party Meeting	18 9:00-Noon ARCH in FH 1:30 Hannah Circle 7:00 Worship	19 5:30 Wedding Rehearsal	20 3:00 Witt Borgeson Wedding
21 9:15 Worship 2:30 Purpose Team Epistle Deadline	22 10:00 Prayer Group	23 10:00 Bible Reading	24	25 9:00-Noon ARCH in FH 7:00 Worship	26	27
28 9:15 Worship 4:00 Block Party (No Community Meal)	29 10:00 Prayer Group	30 10:00 Bible Reading	31			

SERVER SCHEDULE

		AUG 7	AUG 14	AUG 21	AUG 28
ACOLYTE	9:15	Caleb Charlson Isaac Charlson	Katie Pollpeter	Marisa Heine Hannah Birt	Avan Colah
ALTAR GUILD	9:15	Pat & Henry Clark	Pat & Henry Clark	Pat & Henry Clark	Pat & Henry Clark
COMMUNION ASSISTANT	9:15	Brian Johnson Jule Luckritz	Paul Schnack	Teresa Donahue Roberta Gee	Jen Heine
LECTORS	9:15	Ardena Zirbes	Paul Schnack	Barb Larson	Jule Luckritz
GREETERS	9:15	Ardena Zirbes	Darlene Clausen	Jen, Marisa & Payten Heine	Roberta Gee
ASSISTING MINISTER	9:15				Lisa Clarke
USHERS	9:15	Bob Wright Wally Schilling	Bob Wright Wally Schilling	Bob Wright Wally Schilling	Bob Wright Wally Schilling
FLOWERS	9:15		Dave & Ruth Meyers	Witt & Borgeson	

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sundays at 9:15 - Thursdays at 7:00

FALL/WINTER WORSHIP SCHEDULE STARTS SEPT 11

Sundays at 8:00 & 10:30 - Thursdays at 7:00

PEW CARE

AUG 1 Elayne G.

AUG 8 Evelyn H.

AUG 15 Darlene C.

AUG 22 Dixielee S.

AUG 29

TELLERS

Aug 1 Elayne G.
Lois S.
Judy D.

AUG 8 Elayne G.
Darlene C.
Judie C.

AUG 15 Elayne G.
Lois S.
Judie C.

AUG 22 Darlene C.
Irene N.
Judie C.

AUG 29 Donna Jean H.
Darlene C.
Irene N.

CONGRATS

anniversaries

Russ & Jean Black	08/02/1986
Rev. Pete & Betty Hagglund	08/04/1979
Amy & Aaron Meyers	08/05/2006
Carla & Rick Kowzic	08/07/1976
Al & Gail Thompson	08/07/1976
Betty & Allen Chekal	08/09/1946
Roy & Michelle Goodwin	08/09/1980
Marvin & Jean Grager	08/11/1973
Debra & Steve Frieden	08/16/2008
Richard & Jan Ketelsen	08/16/1959
Ron & Dorothy Pietscher	08/19/1995
Andy & Danielle Wiebenga	08/22/2009
Jessica & Nathan Snyder	08/23/1997
Larry & Carolyn Kramer	08/25/1962
Troy & Margo Bousman	08/26/1988
Jack & Darlene Merten	08/28/1971
John & Ellyne Obermiller	08/30/2008



birthdays

Appuhn, Christopher	08/01
Goodwin, Roy	08/01
Schmidt, Lois	08/02
Clark, Patricia	08/05
Corbisier, Hailey	08/05
Gee, Roberta	08/05
Camp, Lee	08/09
Corbisier, Darla	08/10
Petersen, Robert	08/11
Downey, Beverly	08/13
Schmidt, Larry	08/13
Stumbaugh, Matthew	08/14
Black, Anna	08/15
Jacobs, Nicholas	08/16
Wiebenga, Danielle	08/16
Cooper, Bradley	08/17
Paulsen, Vern	08/17
Broadrick, Margaret	08/18
Charlson, Caleb	08/18
Stumbaugh, Jason	08/18
Doughty, Judith	08/19
Housenga, Kiersten	08/19
Petersen, Diane	08/19
Hagglund, Betty	08/22
Paisley, Jerry	08/22
Stonestreet, Lindsey	08/22
Clarke, Steven	08/23
Schmidt, Veling	08/23
Meyers, Ruth	08/24
Nelson, Thomas	08/24
Reed, Lanny	08/25
Schmidt, Monica	08/25
Wright, Roy	08/26
Birt, Sandra	08/27
McAllister, Kathy	08/29
Marlowe, Marjorie	08/30
Land, Sandra	08/31
Schmidt, Merlin	08/31
Schnack, Paul	08/31

NewsLetter
DEADLINE

AUGUST 21



"Remember, you're under oath."



WEDDING at SAINT PAUL

Stacy Witt and Tarron Borgeson
August 20, 2011

LAUGHS

SAINT PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH
715 S. THIRD STREET, CLINTON, IA 52732

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE
Sundays at 9:15 - Thursdays at 7:00

**FALL/WINTER WORSHIP
SCHEDULE STARTS SEPT 11**
Sundays at 8:00 & 10:30 - Thursdays at 7:00

2011 Congregation Council:

Brian Johnson (President)
Jim Nelson (Vice President)
Lisa Clarke (Secretary)
Al Rathje (Treasurer)
Evelyn Dymkowski
Mert Schmidt
Justin Grager
Jule Luckritz
Joan Guidebeck
Ted Eilders
Jean Grager

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EPI STLE
ONLINE

www.saintpaulclinton.org

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SEPT ISSUE DEADLINE - SUNDAY, AUG 21