



The ANCHOR



A publication of St. Paul's United Methodist Church • Williamsburg, IA
No. 10 • October 2020

Vision Statement: *...to be a church where you can SEE Christ*

*As a deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, O God.
My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.
When shall I come and behold the face of God?*

*Deep calls to deep at the thunder of your waterfalls;
all your breakers and your waves have gone over me.*

*Why are you cast down, O my soul,
and why are you disquieted within me?
Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my help and my God.*

Psalm 42

I remember a place near my first church – the public library in Sheboygan, WI, which had a large fountain outside. Usually such sculptures are tall and impressive, but this fountain was low and broad. In fact, the artist had designed it to be built into the earth. It was made in several levels and offered an invitation to climb down the concrete steps to stand inside it. Descending, the falling waters would get louder and louder, until they drowned out the noise of the city. Surrounded by the spray, it was overwhelming but peaceful. A place not to think or worry, but just breathe. It was a favorite place to visit.

To this day, I believe this fountain was a means of grace. It helped me set aside the pressures and stress of daily life and climb into the circle of God's Presence. It took a little effort. And I sometimes got looks from people walking by who had no time to slow down. But there was nothing like the experience. And when I go through "dry spells" or hard patches in life, the memory of the sound and spray is one thing that sustains me.

In Galatians 3:26-29, the Apostle Paul writes that through baptism, we clothe ourselves in Christ. This transforms us so that "there is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus." This is good news for all of us in this divided and broken world! Our church family is a place where we find unity despite our differences; where we find a more profound love to guide our lives; where we pass through the waters and our lives are restored by coming near to the Presence of God.

I encourage you to keep reading Galatians with us this month. If you missed the start of this series, past sermons are online. And if you're continuing to practice social distancing at home, make sure to tune in for our Livestream of worship on Sundays at 10:30am (or later in the week on our You Tube channel).

Be blessed – and make sure to find your own place to breathe.

Pastor John



Please Note: On Communion Sunday, we will have individually packaged elements available for anyone who needs them, but you are welcome to bring your own.

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP IN OCTOBER!

- **OCTOBER 3RD/4TH**—GALATIANS 3-4
SERVING COMMUNION (BRING YOUR OWN ELEMENTS)
- **OCTOBER 10TH/11TH**—GALATIANS 5
- **OCTOBER 17TH/18TH**—GALATIANS 6
- **OCTOBER 24TH/25TH**—MESSAGE BY MELANIE AHRENS

TAKE TIME TO SAY THANKS!

OCTOBER
*Pastor
Appreciation*
MONTH

Text or call:
(641) 485-3213

Mail a note or card:
PO Box 559
Williamsburg

Send an email:
pastor@stpaulsumcwilliamsburg.com

*Ladies Sack Luncheon
Thursday, October 1st
at 12:00pm
Ladies, bring a sack
lunch and come for a
time of fellowship!
Maralyn Slaymaker
will be sharing about
Meals on Wheels.*

**Tuesday Morning Women's Study
Starts October 6th at 10:00am**

"Matchless" The Life and Love of Jesus

Join author Angie Smith in this 8-session search for truth as she unfolds the story of our matchless Savior—His mission, miracles, and message. Through her signature wit and accessible style, Angie unpacks Scripture in a way that's easy to understand, regardless of how long you've been studying the Bible (a great option for new believers!). This study will deepen your understanding of Jesus through biblical, historical, and cultural insight and help you see Him less as an iconic figure and more as an intimate friend.



**Wednesday,
October 7th at
1:00pm &
5:30pm**

For those of you missing our

congregational singing, we have a time set up where we can get together outside to do some! Bring your lawn chair and come on Wednesday, October 7th as we take 30-40 minutes to sing some songs and have a short devotion by Pastor John. We plan to still social distance outside and encourage mask wearing. Our 1:00pm "Sing" will be hymns and our 5:30pm "Sing" will be contemporary music. This is all weather permitting so pray for a great afternoon so we can worship together. We look forward to having a mid-week time of praise with you!

Confirmation
Starts Sunday, October 11th

All 8th graders are invited to join us for this year's Confirmation Class. Pastor John will be leading them with the help of Melanie Ahrens on Sunday nights from 6:00-7:00pm. For the first week, October 11th, we invite parents to attend with their youth. This will be a time to go over expectations of the class and answer any questions that parents and/or youth might have. Confirmation Sunday is planned for May 2021 at this time.

Charge Conference

Sunday, October 25th at 4:00pm

Everyone is invited to join us for this year's Charge Conference. This is our "annual review" as a church and is open to anyone who wants to attend. This year will be different since it will be via zoom so if you want to participate, let the office know so you can be sent the information.

Halloween Treat Bags

Wednesday, October 28th 5:30-7:00pm

Halloween may look different for our kids this year so we're going to try to do our best to make it a little more fun! Bring your littles up to 6th grade to the church on Wednesday, October 28th and grab a treat bag for them! You don't even need to get out of your car! Just pull up in the underpass and let us know how many kids you have. Bags will be handed out until 7:00pm or until we run out. All safety precautions will be used when putting together the treat bags and handing them out.

Candy Donations: If you'd like to make a donation of pre-packaged candy for the bags, please drop them off during office hours or on Sunday morning. We'd love to have lots of goodies for the kids to enjoy!



Congratulations to our 3rd Graders



L-R: Lynnea Nunnelley, Kinley Belland, Tenley Heitman, Reid Becker, Cora Foster, Calen Henderson, Carter Lentz, Kara Dietrich
Not Pictured: Noah Altenhofen, Nolan Jones, Ellie Matthes, Lola Wehner

Worship Online

Stay connected to Christ and to the Church

Go to our Youtube page on Sunday mornings at 10:30am to watch our service live. The service will continue to be available online for you to watch at a different time if this doesn't work.

www.stpaulsumcwilliamsburg.com

In-Person Worship

- Saturdays at 5:00pm in the Sanctuary (use Sanctuary doors)
- Sundays at 8:30am in the Crossroads (use West doors)
- Sundays at 10:30am in the Sanctuary (use Sanctuary doors)



Joys & Concerns

Please lift up John & Theresa Phillips and family with the death of their daughter, Kirsten on September 24th.
Congratulations to Joe & Leslie Maxwell on the baptism of their son, Colson on September 27th.



Vital Statistics

As of 9/30/20

Total Income - \$183,427

Total Expenses - \$173,741

Update your General Information Online!

Now that most of our correspondence is done online and over email, we want to be sure we have correct contact information for our congregation!

Please take a couple minutes and go to our website at www.stpaulsumcwilliamsburg.com.

Click on the "General information Form", fill out and submit.

PRAYER REQUEST

Email office@stpaulsumcwilliamsburg.com so our team can be praying.

The ANCHOR is a publication of St. Paul's United Methodist Church

803 Clearview Drive, PO Box 559,

Williamsburg, IA 52361

Phone: 319-668-2288

Website: www.stpaulsumcwilliamsburg.com

Lead Pastor: John Christianson

• Email:

pastor@stpaulsumcwilliamsburg.com

Worship Leader & Church Manager:

Sonja Parsons

• Email:

office@stpaulsumcwilliamsburg.com

Nurture Director: Kerry McKown

• Email:

coordinator@stpaulsumcwilliamsburg.com

Coordinator of Children's Discipleship:

Kristin Nunnelley

• Email: kristin.nunnelley@gmail.com

Early Childhood Coordinator:

Sarah Lentz

• Email: sarahlee213@gmail.com

Choir Director: Steve Manning

Organist: Sue Heitmann

Custodian: Kelly Loftus

Editor: Sonja Parsons

Deadline for news for the November ANCHOR is October 23rd. Email info to

Sonja or drop it off at the church office.

STAY
CONNECTED

Website: www.stpaulsumcwilliamsburg.com
Like us on Facebook: Search for @stpaulsumc803
(look for the Jesus face)

SPUMY (St. Paul's United Methodist Youth)



7th-12th grade! Join us for SPUMY on Wednesday nights! The evening starts at 6:15pm until 7:30pm. Sign up to eat at 6:00pm.



The ANCHOR (USPS 100-090) is published monthly by St. Paul's United Methodist Church, 803 Clearview Drive, Williamsburg, IA 52361
Periodical Postage Paid at Williamsburg, IA
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The ANCHOR, PO Box 559, Williamsburg, IA 52361

St. Paul's United Methodist Church, Williamsburg, IA

The ANCHOR

