

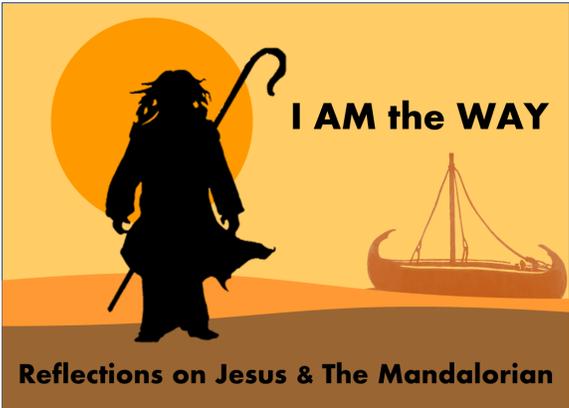
The ANCHOR



A publication of St. Paul's United Methodist Church • Williamsburg, IA
No. 10 • October 2021

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

Let's end with a Celebration!



If you've been with us in September, you know that worship has taken a turn into a galaxy far, far away. We're now half-way done with our series "I Am the Way," which include my reflections on *The Mandalorian* (a Star Wars series on Disney+) and Jesus. We've met some characters from the show. But more importantly, we are diving into the Bible to make connections between Old Testament passages about God's Wisdom and New Testament texts that show how Jesus' work and teaching express this same Wisdom – and show us

how to find life. Let me encourage you to watch these services online at the St. Paul's YouTube channel, and also join us in person for worship in October. We have a few more Mandalorian characters to meet – and a few more aspects of Jesus' story to cover. We'd love to have you join us.

On a related note, this series will end on October 17th with a Kids & Family Day. We're still working out some details – but it will include food, music, and fun. If you have some Star Wars or Mandalorian t-shirts, wear them! If you want to create a costume, bring it! (I know there will be at least one person there as a Jedi.) Watch the weekly update email and church website for more details.

Grace and Peace, Pastor John

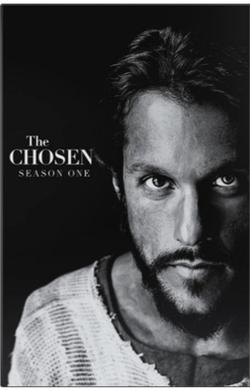
TAKE TIME TO SAY THANKS!

Text or call:
(641) 485-3213

Pastor
APPRECIATION
Month
1 Thessalonians 5:12-13

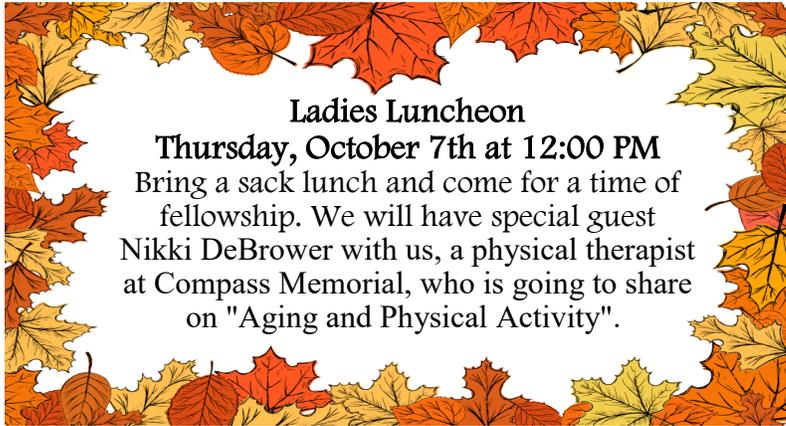
Mail a note or card:
PO Box 559
Williamsburg

Send an email:
pastor@stpaulsumcwilliamsburg.com



Men's Group on Wednesday Nights at 6:30pm "The Chosen"

A Charismatic fisherman drowning in debt. A troubled woman with real demons. A gifted publican ostracized by his family and his people. A religious leader struggling with his beliefs. See Jesus through the eyes of those that met him. Come and see what they saw! Men are invited to join our Wednesday night group as they start a new study "The Chosen". Study guides are available for this small group.



Ladies Luncheon

Thursday, October 7th at 12:00 PM

Bring a sack lunch and come for a time of fellowship. We will have special guest Nikki DeBrower with us, a physical therapist at Compass Memorial, who is going to share on "Aging and Physical Activity".

Senior Social
Wednesday, October 20th, 1:30-3:00pm
We would like to invite all of our seniors (older generation, not high school seniors) to our church for our 1st fall Senior Social. Please bring a friend and come for food and fellowship.

Charge Conference
Tuesday, October 19th at 6:00pm
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.

Wednesday Night EPIC
Meal at 6:00pm, Small Groups at 6:30pm
Meal is \$5/person
Sign up in the Sanctuary or contact the church office.

October 6th	Casey's Pizza, Salad & Dessert
October 13th	Pork Burgers, Chips, Salad & Dessert
October 20th	Casey's Pizza, Salad & Dessert
October 27th	TBD

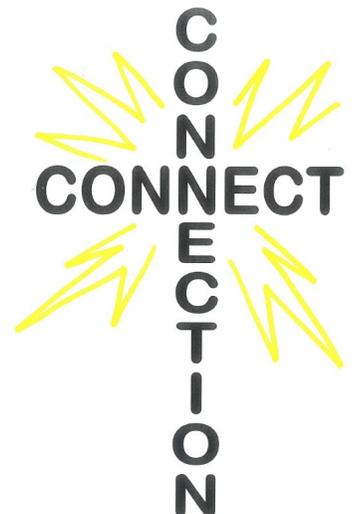
JOY From the "Fruit of the Spirit"

Joy is one of the gifts that the "fruit of the Spirit" offers us. To accept Joy we need to understand its meaning. Joy and happiness, though related, are not synonymous. Happiness is superficial and fleeting and is dependent on one's circumstances; while on the other hand, joy is a sense of being not dependent on one's circumstances, but depending on one's willingness to see the goodness in life. Joy is a general appreciation and contentment with the way things are.

Joy is the feeling you experience when you hold your baby for the first time. It is an intentional choice to appreciate the beauty in life. When we develop healthy and positive attitudes, life's simplicity becomes a joy. Enjoying a hot cup of coffee on a cold winter's day, watching a good movie without commercials, catching up with an old friend, and coming home to the greeting and excitement of a wagging tail from a beloved pet are some of my favorite joys. Joy is God-given. What brings you joy?

Digging deeper:

- Ezra 6:22
- Jeremiah 31: 10-14
- Luke 2:10-12
- Nehemiah 8:10 & 8:17
- Psalms 4:6-8 & 13:5-6, 30:11-12 & 65:9-10



SERVE

Being God's Hands and Feet

With the start of Wednesday Night EPIC, Sunday Morning J.A.M. and small groups, we are seeking help in different areas. Serving in The Attic on Thursday nights, running the computer on Sunday mornings, leading an adult small group, helping with the K-4th grade...and that's not all! Maybe you feel led to help in the preschool and nursery rooms on Sunday mornings! There are many areas where you can serve and we can help you find the right one! Contact Sonja in the church office if you have questions or need help discerning where you'd like to help. God has gifted us each with a unique gift, we can help you figure out what your gift is.

"There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord."
1 Corinthians 12:4-5

Financial Footnote

As we enter our last quarter of 2021, we find ourselves still in a place of financial need. Each month on average our expenses are just over \$22,000. We have only received this amount or more 4 months out this year. That means for 5 of the months, we have fallen short and have a deficit to make up. We start the month of October with a shortfall of \$10,000. 3rd Quarter Giving letters will be sent out in the next couple weeks. Please take that time to review where your giving is for the year and then continue to be in prayer on how you can best support our church and its ministries. Contact Sonja at 668-2288 or office@stpaulsumcwilliamsburg.com if you have any questions or want to be set up on electronic giving. Thank you for your continued support of our church.



Joys & Concerns

Please keep the family of Judith Harland in your prayers with her death on September 3rd.



Vital Statistics

Worship Attendance

September 5	62
September 12	91
September 19	137
September 26	111

As of 9/30/21

Total Income -	\$189,496
Total Expenses -	\$199,669

Congratulations 3rd Graders!



L-R: Joesyn Patterson, Jonah Kahler, Kinnick Grobe, Helene Gorsh, Lydia Swenka, Brody Andrews, Paige Von Stein, Serenity Law

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Deadline for news for the November ANCHOR is October 22nd. 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)

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS are EPIC!

We're off to a fun start this fall in youth group! Outdoor games like kickball, 9-square, and spikeball have been great fun while the warm weather lasts. We've learned a few bible lessons and enjoyed some live music too. These first few weeks have been mainly about youth and adult leaders getting to know each other – and making a plan for what our year will be like.

In October, we have plans forming for every week. But here are two special ones to note:

Oct 13th Star Wars Night (wear something Star Warsy; a Jedi may appear)

Oct 27th Halloween/Harvest Party (if you have a costume, wear it!)

See you every Wednesday at 6:00pm (supper) and 6:30-7:30pm (youth group).



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