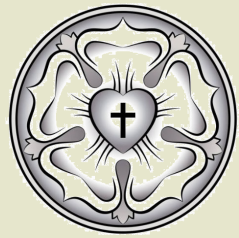


St. Paul's Lutheran Church
556 W. Haysville Rd.
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St. Paul's Epistle

AUGUST 2026

Volume 22 Issue 8

A note from Pastor Tim...

The ELCA developed worship resources and welcomed congregations to utilize them regarding the 250th anniversary of our nation. I didn't get passed the introductory paragraph before reading it was designed to "celebrate and lament our nation's history". My desire to continue exploring this as a potential option disappeared. Instead, I was motivated to focus more on the *celebrate* aspect; not turning a blind eye to the negative, of which there is a great deal, but reexamine the good, which opened an unprecedented door.

During this month, on two sermon occasions, I referred the "seed" and the "soil" while explaining a parable and tied that symbolism to the founding of our country. I didn't go too in depth, nor will I at this time, but wanted to establish that the proper idea, implanted in the proper foundation, will yield the best fruit. With that, it is necessary to understand 3 fundamental adopted values put into practice when country was founded.

- E. Pluribus Unum (out of many, one)
- Liberty
- In God We Trust

Not long after the Declaration of Independence was signed, the 13 colonies looked to view themselves as one nation, which is what E. Pluribus Unum originally intended to express. Over time the idea has shifted to be understood as our countries attempt to make one unified nation of people from numerous backgrounds and systems of beliefs. The aim is to be more than the individual, and instead, part of a greater whole.

Liberty, by definition reads: *the quality or state of being free*. Despite a common narrative, liberty and equality are not the same thing. We are all born equal and are to be viewed as equals before the law, but living in absolute equality requires taking away liberty in a very real sense. We have the liberty to pursue our dreams, accept opportunities as they are presented, and venture forth with varying degrees of diligence; which are unlikely to be universally equal. If every element of life was mandated to be truly equal, we would all have vastly different lives.

In God We trust. There has never been a state religion, yet America was founded on the belief the God of the Bible is the source of morality and to live accordingly. Not only does this mean that we are all created with an inherent value, but also that our rights come from God, not from us. If rights are established by men and women, that means that we can just as easily take them away.

These three elements are a primary reason America became the freest and most prosperous country in the world. If God is removed from the equation, if liberty becomes replaced with equality, and individual identity overtakes the concept of "out of many, one", I leave to your own speculation where that outcome could lead. I am not saying ignore the past. Nor should we ignore the progress that has been made along the way. Appreciate what we have and recognize the importance of retaining the values that allow us the lives that we have.

Pastor Timothy Holt

St. Paul's Lutheran Church Mission Statement

Worship Boldly, Empower for Discipleship, Cultivate Spiritual Maturity, Strengthen Community, Serve.

WELCA



Thank you to Tammy Lampert of SWIACC who hosted and spoke at our July WELCA meeting. SWIACC offers many services to children who have suffered from abuse and maltreatment and work to keep these children safe.

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS



- 08/01 Morris Kalb
Tara Uebelhor

08/02 Tanner Breitwieser

08/04 Marvin Eisenhut
Kade Mundy
River Storer

08/05 Amy Batule

08/06 Chloe Ramsey
Michelle Schmitt
Maggie Stemle

08/07 Myrna Popp
Gaige Schepers

08/08 Kynzlee Mann
Liam Schnarr

08/10 Reese Fair
Stanford Fuhrman
Phillip Hautsch
Nathan Leistner

08/11 Ridge Fleetwood
Karen Raufeisen

08/12 Carlie Beck
Chloee Beck
Evelyn Phillips
Stacia Weatherholt

08/13 Caitlin Lottes
Becky Eisenhut
Steve Hautsch
Jackson Mehringer

08/14 Don Freyberger
Judy Wessel

08/15 Gladys Chanley
Michael Weisheit

08/17 Kassidy Mundy

08/18 Brandon Lindsay

08/19 Rick Seitz
Ada Phillips

08/20 Emilio Batule
Camasia Brames
Steve Schnaus

08/21 Maurey Werner
Brooklyn Buse

08/22 Scott Mundy

08/23 Donna Rasche
Patrick Wagner

08/24 Shannelle Kline

08/25 Mindy Sendelweck

08/27 Jaxon Denu

08/28 Tiffany Bauer
Tara Betz
Wanda Krodel
Mark Seitz

08/29 Alli Betz
Geoff Stallwood

08/30 Eric Smith
Cody Lichlyter
Olivia Ziegler

In Service to Our Country

Austin Breitwieser
Redzikowo, Poland
AMC Luke Himsel
Virginia Beach, VA
Joshua Hoffman
San Diego, CA
Cooper Uebelhor
Colorado Springs, CO



AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

- 08/02 Ryna & Beth Phillips
- 08/05 Andrea & Brandon Lindsey
- 08/07 Wayne & JoAnn Schnarr
- 08/08 Carl & Melissa Schaber
- 08/14 Dennis & Dorothy Hautsch
Anthony & Deann Mann
Leroy & Janice Seitz
- 08/17 Samantha & Travis Merter
- 08/18 Katelyn & Dacoda Mehringer
- 08/19 Gary & Diane Bair
Doug & Michele Wiseman
Kent & Amy Beckman
- 08/25 Steve & Deborah Meyer
- 08/27 Mark & Katrina Seitz
- 08/31 Larry & Wanda Krodel

85+ BIRTHDAY and Baker

8/22 Gladys Chanley (Cheryl Hauser)

June Attendance

June 7	151
June 14	168
June 21	164
June 28	140

FOOD BANK ITEM
FOR AUGUST IS:
Juice

St. Paul's Women of the ELCA - July 7, 2026 meeting

The Women of the ELCA met on July 7th at the SWIACC office at the old 5th Street school in Jasper. Tammy Lampert gave a tour of their facilities and shared what they do there.

Kathy Jarboe opened with a prayer for the regular meeting. 14 members were in attendance. Regular offering was collected, with Nancy Freyberger giving a prayer of thanks. No birthday offerings.

The secretary's report was read and approved. Treasurer's report was read. Motion to accept by Marie Neukam and seconded by Donna Rasche. Motion carried.

Program and Fellowship reported that our next meeting will be Tina Smith, President of the IN/KY Synod WELCA, but if she would not available to come, a possible outing was discussed.

School kits will be collected in August.

2 pickup loads of bolt fabric were donated to us for blankets.

Visiting report was read.

No old business.
New business: Christmas gift will be given to SWIACC for letting us use the facilities. Correspondence: Operation Christmas Shoe Box, will have a workshop on August 23 at 2:30 at the Methodist Church in Ferdinand. For more info check with Kathy Jarboe.

July Birthdays 85+: Patricia Sendelweck (7/10) by Marilyn Shelton, Barb Dell (7/14) by Barb Schnarr, Wilma Buchta (7/27) by Kathy Jarboe.

Food Pantry item for July: Vegetables

Thanked the June committees: Visiting - Cheryl Hauser and Mary Ann Kieffner, cards were sent by Beth Buchta.

Flowers - Marie Neukam; refreshments - Mary Ann Kieffner.

July committees: Visiting: Tina Terwiske and Linda Schmitt. Cards will be sent by Sarah Giesler. Flowers: Barb Schnarr, and refreshments by Hilda Angerer.

With no further business a motion by Nancy Freyberger to adjourn and seconded by Melanie Freyberger. Motion accepted. Meeting than closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.
Secretary, Jeanne Hoffman

Women of the ELCA