

Christ's Calling Card



St. Paul's Lutheran Church ELCA
401 Mill Street Wilton, WI 54670

July - August 2022
Bi-Monthly Newsletter



Church Council President, Justin Arndt

Happy Summer and Happy 4th of July!

It's hard to believe that the year is already half over.

Living in the Coulee Region, I am reminded every day of the beauty of God's creation – rolling hills, meandering rivers, forests, prairies, crops, cows and wildlife galore. It is part of what drew me back home after spending over 15 years away.

Even though we live in this special place, I enjoy visiting other beautiful places as well. Right after school got out at the beginning of June, our family travelled to Glacier National Park in Montana. Glacier has over 1 million acres of pristine nature – mountains, forests, lakes, waterfalls, glaciers and wildlife. It is an awe-inspiring place that cannot help but bring you closer to God. Some of the divine moments included hiking to a crystal-clear snow-fed lake, walking among wildflowers on an alpine prairie, and standing at the base of a roaring waterfall and getting sprayed with an ice-cold mist.

As wonderful as God's creation is, it is our responsibility for taking care of it. It can be something as simple as skipping the car and taking a walk or bike ride for that short trip; or recycling a plastic bottle, aluminum can or cardboard box. It can also be taking the time to clean-up and beautify your surroundings, like the nearly 20 members that helped out during the church's workday this past Sunday. Tremendous progress was made and your effort is greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your continued support of St. Paul's. Please let me know if you have any questions or comments.



Transition

From President's May - June Report

On Palm Sunday, the church council had the opportunity to meet with Reverend Dione Stepanek, the Assistant to the Bishop and the Director of Evangelical Mission for the La Crosse Area Synod. It was a very informative conversation, including these highlights:

There is a shortage of pastors. There are more than 10 open positions in the La Crosse Area Synod. Similar shortages are seen throughout the ELCA.

Pastors willing to serve in a part-time capacity are not readily available.

If we want to look at partnering with another congregation, the Synod will help facilitate that.

Many smaller congregations are using a transition team to self-evaluate prior to entering the call process.

Our congregation's location, size and financial position offer St. Paul's some unique challenges and opportunities. After our conversation with Rev Stepanek, the council decided to move forward with a transition team – a committee of five or six individuals – to engage congregation members, the Synod, and outside entities to explore the future direction of the congregation. The committee will explore a wide range of options, which may include but not limited to: maintain the status quo, returning to a full-time pastor, partnering with another congregation (ELCA or a denomination in full communion with the ELCA), merging with another congregation and even preparing to close our doors. Findings will be brought to the council and congregation to help determine our next steps.

Transition Committee

Addison Arndt, Rachel Conner, Kirstin Arndt, Jerry Von Haden (Council Member), Pat Von Haden and Carolyn Dougherty.



WORSHIP NOTES

The following are the Scripture readings we will be sharing in worship during the months of July and August, 2022

July 3 – 4th Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 66:10-14; Psalm 66:1-9;
Galatians 6:7-16; Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

July 10- 5th Sunday after Pentecost

Deuteronomy 30:9-14; Psalm 25:1-10;
Colossians 1:1-14; Luke 10:25-37

July 17- 6th Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 18:1-10a; Psalm 15;
Colossians 1:15-28; Luke 10:38-42

July 24- 7th Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 18:20-32; Psalm 138 ;
Colossians 2:6-15; Luke 11:1-13

July 31- 8th Sunday after Pentecost

Ecclesiastes 1:2,12-14; 2:18-23;
Psalm 49:1-12; Colossians 3:1-11
Luke 12:13-21

August 7- 9th Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 15:1-6; Psalm 33:12-22;
Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16; Luke 12:32-40

August 14-10th Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 23:23-29; Psalm 82;
Hebrews 11:29--12:2; Luke 12:49-56

August 21- 11th Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 58:9b-14; Psalm 103:1-8;
Hebrews 12:18-29; Luke 13:10-17

August 28- 12th Sunday after Pentecost

Proverbs 25:6-7; Psalm 112;
Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-1; Luke 14:1, 7-14

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

July

Sun., 3 rd	Worship, 9:00 am
Sun., 10 th	Worship, 9:00 am
Sun., 17 th	Worship, 9:00 am
Sun., 24 th	Worship, 9:00 am
Sat., 30 th	Blood Drive, 7:30 am
Sun., 31 st	Worship, 9:00 am

August

Sun., 7 th	No Church
We invite you to attend the Wilton Fest service .	
Mon., 8 th - Thurs., 11 th	VBS; 5:30-8:00 pm
Sun., 14 th	Worship, 9:00 am
Sun., 21 st	Worship, 9:00 am
Sun., 28 th	Worship, 9:00 am

Birthdays and Anniversaries

July

2 nd	Douglas Wildes
3 rd	Buddy Speicher
4 th	Bev Graunke,
6 th	Collin Birkholz
8 th	Travis Anderson, Doug Birkholz, Derek Erdman, Matt & Tiffany Bever
11 th	Katie Garske, Barb Savall
13 th	Gracie Brandau
17 th	Cory Dutton, Mathew Dutton
18 th	Brian Buchholz
19 th	Haley Jewell, Travis & Ann Anderson, Bob & Louise Buchholz
21 st	Doreen Bayer
24 th	Karl Radke, Mark & Sarah Gruen
25 th	Bob Gruen
26 th	Arlis Ballwahn
27 th	Adam Brueggen
29 th	Sophia Erdman
31 st	Gordon O'Rourke, Leonard & Dixie Arndt

August

1 st	Natalie Stanek
2 nd	Gene Dougherty
3 rd	Avery Arndt, Larry & Lorrie Bever
6 th	Ron Drews
8 th	Kristi Tormoen
12 th	Erica Steinke
13 th	Ginger Arndt
14 th	Greg Bever, Andy Brueggen
16 th	Bud Osteboe
18 th	Jaimie Zimmerman
21 st	August Arndt, Marty Arndt, Jerry & Pat Von Haden
23 rd	Carolyn Dougherty
24 th	Kirstin Arndt, Larry & Arlis Ballwahn
25 th	Lois O'Rourke
27 th	Amber Brueggen, Ken Thorson, Jr.
31 st	Barb Ornes

Communion

We are fortunate to have Reverend Karen Sparling leading us in worship on Sundays when a pastor from the supply list is unavailable. Due to the ELCA guidelines, we will not be having communion on those Sundays when Reverend Karen is with us.

At this time, communion is scheduled on two Sundays in July and one in August.

You will recall we had communion on the first Sunday for many years before adding the third Sunday, in view of the children singing. And then it was all Sundays during the time Pastor Steinbrecher was our interim.

We appreciate your understanding during this time of our pastoral vacancy.

Readers

THOSE SERVING IN JULY

Readers:

July 3- Karen Arzt;
July 1- Lori Arndt;
July 17- Barb Bever;
July 24- Greg Bever
July 31-Justin Arndt

We will have a Service of Communion on July 10 and July 17. Barb Bever and Karen Arzt are assigned to altar.

THOSE SERVING IN AUGUST

Readers:

Aug. 14- Thadyn Conner;
August 21- Kirstin Arndt;
August 28-Ayawyn Conner

We will have a Service of Communion on August 28. Anita Steinke and Julie Acker are assigned to altar.



NEWSLETTER IN COLOR

The newsletter is always on the church website in color for reading, printing (just a page if you want) or reference. The church Website: <https://www.stpaulswilton.com/>

Have you ever really explored the Church Website? The “links” listed in About Us for example or the newsletters, bulletins and council minutes at the bottom of the home page?

Church Information - Nalani



VACATION BIBLE SHOOOL

We will hold VBS at St. Paul's beginning on Monday, August 8 through Thursday, August 12. The times are 5:30 pm – 8:00 pm. Children from age 4 up to and including those who are entering 6th grade are welcome to attend.

We want to reach out to the children, in not only Wilton, but also the surrounding area and need your help. While we will advertise the event, nothing can replace a personal invitation. Surely many of us have neighbors with chil-

dren, and many of the children have never heard of Jesus. VBS is a wonderful opportunity to share our faith.

Please invite the children of your friends and neighbors to attend VBS. Share your invitation with Greg Bever, Angie Gruen, or Justin Arndt. This will help us to make sure we have ample supplies as well as food for our opening meal.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

As you are no doubt aware, Thadyn Conner will be heading off to college in August. For some reason, Thadyn does not wish to come home every weekend to clean the church, mow the lawn, and other tasks. Hard to believe, what is becoming of the younger generation?



Cleaning consists of the sanctuary, basement, and bathrooms on a weekly basis. You are required to mow and trim the lawn, however, snow removal is not a part of the job. If you are interested in this part-time position, please let Justin Arndt know. Monthly hours run around 20-25 at a pay rate of \$15.00/hour.

Church Contact Information

In case of emergency, you may contact:

Justin Arndt (608-435-6336, 414-587-6642 (cell), or Nalani at 608-387-2311. Justin and Nalani also text.

To activate the prayer chain, please contact Nalani (608-387-2311)

Office Hours: Wednesday, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Additional Contact Information:

Justin Arndt: arndt.now@gmail.com

Church: wiltonchurch@gmail.com

Nalani Bever: nalanib@gmail.com

Website: <https://www.stpaulswilton.com/>

FACEBOOK!! Home page: St. Paul's Lutheran Church Wilton WI

**Newsletter editors: Arlis &
Larry Ballwahn
email: alballwahn@gmail.com
Calendars, Church
information & cemetery reports:
Nalani Bever**

**Congregation pictures:
Contributed -
Facebook
Barb Ornes**

****The Website & Facebook
pages were developed & are
administered by April Arndt**

**April also developed the front page of the News-
letter**

**Newsletters, past and present, are on the
Church Website in Color.**

Church Council

Justin Arndt
President

John Ornes
President Elect

Arlis Ballwahn
Secretary

Lori Brueggen
Treasurer

Ayawyn Conner

Joel Arndt

April Arndt

Angie Gruen

Jerry Von Haden

Synod Assembly

Barb and John Ornes were St. Paul's delegates to the Synod Assembly. The Synod Website (<https://lacrosseareasynd.org/>) has an Information Page regarding the Assembly.

2022 Synod Assembly June 10, 11 & 12 *Wild Lament ~ Whirling Dance*



Inviting people to journey with Christ's family in spreading God's love and mercy.

Christ's Calling Card
St. Paul's Lutheran
Church



St. Paul's Lutheran Church

"A Welcoming Place for over 125 years"

PO Box 129

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Name

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