

Dear friends in Christ Jesus,

I give God thanks and praise for you. Our first four weeks together have been fruitful. Here is a short recap of our time together and what to count on as the holidays approach.

First, about your gracious hospitality. This, I think, is not typical for Intentional Interim Pastors to experience. Augustana's parsonage was clean. It has become "home" to me. Thank you for the things you allow me to borrow. I am most appreciative. Please know neighbor Dale keeps the yard looking great!

We started together on September 27. Now, near thirty days later, I can call at least fifty-three (53) of you by first and last name; all because you have given me time to speak with you. Twenty-nine (29) of you have given me at least one hour of personal time to teach me about yourself; the love you have for Christ and one another. This upstart momentum for a congregation and pastor is extremely good and meaningful to the congregation.

Your collective history has touched lives, extending comfort where sorrow existed and hope where despair was apparent. Augustana is more than a quilt making machine. It is hands and voices out in the fields, down at the bank, at Big Beves, the school setting, Meals on Wheels, Mac Center ... so many places ... like Trunk and Treat befriending moments, a Confirmation Cookie Walk for camp dollars, a clown and puppet Ministry, and much more. Together members can aim to celebrate 150 years in 2021 with joy and praise to God.

These next thirty days, what might they look like? I can only guess. With certainty I can say God will help us do what our ancestors did, to bless people in the name of Jesus. The snow will come. More names will be added to this history that we can call, *Disciples at Work*. Wear hard-hats if necessary. Face-mask for sure; honor your neighbor by that. You are doing ministry.

You may point me to someone and recommend I meet with them. I will welcome that. In November I will start to meet with Saint Paul Lutheran people as I did here in October. Our circle of love widens as I begin to meet them and learn their names.

Confirmation classes for Augustana students start again Wednesday nights at 6, beginning November 4. Saturday evening worship at 5:00 has returned. Augustana's Worship Planning and Learning teams are thinking thru how to best empower people to celebrate Advent and Christmas during Covid-times, both at church and back at home. Watch for: announcements, posted updates, and emails from your church office secretary. Expect and welcome children as they return to the worship hour in November. We will hear some bell ringing soon.

Please, everyone, this week, update the church office on any phone number or address changes. Note: The baptism for Hayes Howell is happening soon, November 22. Rejoice Saint Paul Lutheran has five of their young people affirm their baptism on October 25. That celebration can be seen via You-Tube.com, by searching: *Manson Iowa Lutherans*. Be always praying and giving thanks. Welcome to November. Good to be together. -Pr. Peter

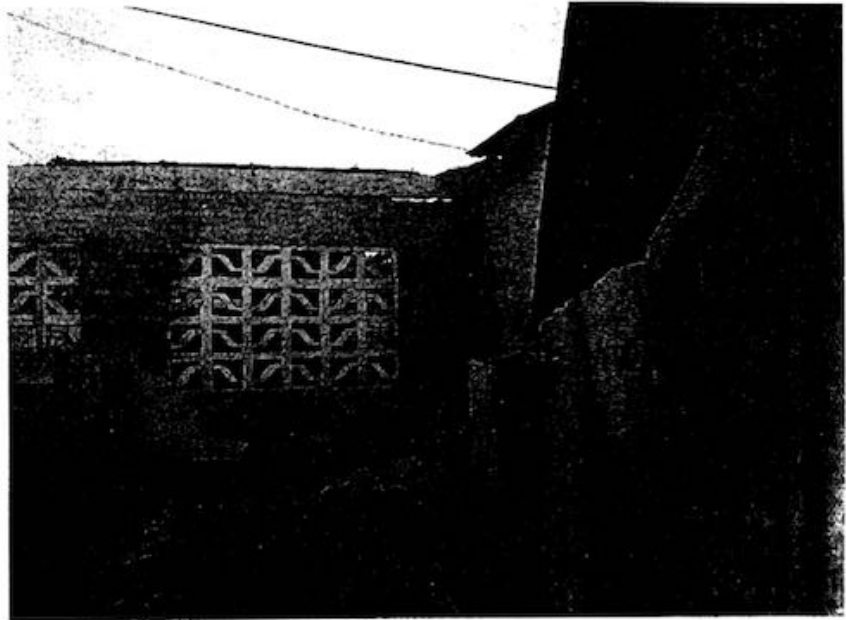
TRYING SMALL

Brian Palmer – ELCA Pastor/Missionary serving in Totota, Liberia



Consecration

I serve a little preaching point called Baysah Farm #2. As Baysah Farm #2 is the “section head” over several other small congregations I get to do all kinds of cool things. A couple weeks ago I baptized 16 persons at even more rural Baysah Farm #3. They can’t hear one word of my slippery English but we manage to communicate perfectly. The challenge came when I wanted to know the ages of those who were being baptized. Only one of the 16 knew for sure and a few had wildly incorrect guesses. I envy their ability to forget about things that don’t matter. Just this morning two fellas, Moses and a man whose name I don’t know, came to my house to have a small communion service with me so they could carry the elements to serve in their congregations. We do this every month. It only takes a couple minutes but it is always quite lovely – a few minutes in heaven is better than no minutes in heaven.



News from St. Matthew’s in Red Light

Most of the parishes in the Lutheran Church in Liberia operate a school. Early in the morning of Sunday, September 27, the school associated with St. Matthew’s Lutheran Church in Red Light caught fire. Thankfully no one was hurt but it does appear to be a total loss. The above picture is one of the offices. In the August 1 edition of *Tryingsmall* I told you all that I’ve been asked to serve as interim director for the school system. Since the fire we’ve been focused on 1) How to finish the school year, and 2) How we might go about reconstruction. As it turns out, finishing the school year has not been nearly as difficult as one might assume – because of Corona all the schools are significantly underutilized and we’ve managed to find a sympathetic school nearby that is willing to allow us to use some of their space and since the school year only has a couple months to go...bingo, bango, bongo...done. The bigger challenge is the reconstruction. Thoughts, plans and proposals are popping like popcorn. This week I’ve got several meetings with stakeholders and my hope is the outcome will be a good and Godly focus emerging from the chaos. I will let you know. As is often the case I feel like my primary role in all this is to be a non-anxious presence while casting a vision of a blessed and successful future. I wanna point to the glory days that lie ahead regardless of the rubble that surrounds our feet. We shall see.

Please remember these members and friends in your prayers:

Our Companion Synods: Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania – Southern Diocese
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chile

Our Missionary: Rev. Brian Palmer, serving in Liberia
ELCA Presiding Bishop Rev. Elizabeth Eaton
Western Iowa Synod Bishop Rev. Lorna Halaas
Pastor Peter & Barbara Rosenkvist

Lawrence & Lois Becker – Good Samaritan Society
Eldon & Ruth Freese – Friendship Haven
June Johnson – Good Samaritan Society
Dwane & Eileen Junkman – Good Samaritan Society
Myrtle Kaufman – Good Samaritan Society
Lois Leadley – Good Samaritan Society

Byron Bruening, serving in the U.S. Air Force - Gene & Kathy Kaufman's grandson
Bryce Collins, serving in the U.S. Marine -, Kendall & Toni Tews' nephew
Mason Lee, serving in U.S. Air Force - Candy & Loren Johnson's grandson

Patty Wolter Fox
Liz Grey
Norma Hoag
Pat McCaulley
Kim Nelson
Twila Nelson
Heather Rethwill
Alan Robbins
Arnie Sorensen
Carolyn Wolter
Randy Wolter

Olivia Calmer – Kenny & Mary Nelson's granddaughter
Marilyn Dayton – Katie Birkey's sister
Emersyn – daughter of a friend of Sara
Gary Hoepfner
Marlys Johnson – Janice Johnson's daughter
Emily Larson – Jenny Westerhoff's daughter
Randy Lee – Candy Johnson's son
Scott Rosene – Ann Johnson's nephew
Michael Wells Jr. – Jenn Hanson's friend
Julie Wooters – Rose McCubbin's sister
Alisha Wrigley – Claudia Neumann's granddaughter

If you or a family member enters the hospital or have a prayer chain request, please call the church office at 469-2524. Please leave a message if no one answers.



Daily Prayer Calendar for our Augustana Church Family

Sunday, November 1 – Simon & Pam Fitzgerald – Cainan, Brayden, Ashton
Monday, November 2 – Will & Amy Fitzgerald - Liam
Tuesday, November 3 – Darwin & Janet Folden
Wednesday, November 4 – Dean & Pat Fox
Thursday, November 5 – Dan & Amanda Fraser – Cheyanne, Dallas, Abbi, David, Ryder
Friday, November 6 – Eldon & Ruth Freese
Saturday, November 7 – Myrt Gerdes
Sunday, November 8 – Lisa Glenney – Odyssey, Oryan, Owen
Monday, November 9 – Joe & Sherry Gray
Tuesday, November 10 – Ken & Liz Grey
Wednesday, November 11 – Brandon & Elsa Hall
Thursday, November 12 – Richard & Heidi Hall
Friday, November 13 – Alesha Hanson
Saturday, November 14 – Alexa Hanson
Sunday, November 15 – Avrey Hanson
Monday, November 16 – Donavon Hanson
Tuesday, November 17 – Jeremy & Heather Hanson
Wednesday, November 18 – Koby Hanson
Thursday, November 19 – Ricky & Jenn Hanson – Tatuem, Olivia
Friday, November 20 – Casey & Melinda Hart - Gavin
Saturday, November 21 – Tad & Selena Hart – John, Ben
Sunday, November 22 – Austin Hauge
Monday, November 23 – Mark Hauge
Tuesday, November 24 – Marlyce Hauge
Wednesday, November 25 – Phil & Wendy Hauge
Thursday, November 26 – Ken Heim
Friday, November 27 – Bill & Lori Heun
Saturday, November 28 – Zelda Hiracheta
Sunday, November 29 – Ashley Hisler
Monday, November 30 – Joyce Hite

EDUCATION COMMITTEE NEWS

The Education Committee, along with Pastor Pete, are planning a video production to celebrate The Nativity. This video production will take the place of our live Christmas program. We will be asking families with Sunday School children, as well as many other families, to take part. We will provide a script and ask you to take a short video of your family reading and/or acting out your part.

We are looking for talent to help us put these videos together to tell the story. If you are able to help, please get in touch with Pastor Pete or Heather Leith.

We look forward to working with all of you and sharing this great production for all to enjoy!

We will not be having our annual Christmas garage sale this year. Please do not bring any items for either garage sale at this time.

If you would like to help with planning for the 150th Anniversary of the Church next year, have memorabilia to share, please contact Sandy Peterson.

We extend our sympathy to the Family of Martin Nimke.
Martin passed away on Saturday, October 24.
The funeral service was on Thursday, October 29, at Augustana.



A NEW SEASON

God of love, you enter into our autumn seasons....
into our deepest dwelling places
into our times of change and transformation.


Open our hearts...open our minds to your holy presence...
to the continual process of letting go of our wants
to reach out in love and tend to the needs of our neighbor.

Today we lift our prayers for –

- Sympathy to Pastor Jennifer Osheim-Owen, Friendship Haven, Fort Dodge – on the death of her mother-in-law in Indiana
- Restored health for Pastor Jim Davis, Zion Lutheran, Gowrie, and others who have Covid
- Transitions – congregations and rostered ministers in the call process.
- Domestic mission partner Oregon Synod as wildfires continue to burn.
- Global partners Southern Diocese of Tanzania and Chile
- Our nation as we move toward November 3, Election Day
- Farmers finishing harvest
- All workers named “essential”
- Children, parents and the challenges of school this year

- Teachers, administrators and school boards facing difficult decisions
- Pastors and congregation leaders as the pandemic continues to challenge ministry
- ...may each of us care for our neighbor, working to do that which is just and merciful building up one another in love.

Rev. Lorna H. Halaas, Bishop – Western Iowa Synod, ELCA



Just for KIDS

2 Timothy 3:16-17

The books and subjects that we study in school prepare us for our futures and our lives. Studying the Bible is important also. Find what Paul wrote to his young helper, Timothy.

First write a word to fit each definition. Then transfer the letters to the lines below.

Printed and bound sheets of paper	1	2	3	4							
They form the alphabet	5	6	7	8	9	10	11				
One who is learning	12	13	14	15	16	17	18				
A small test	19	20	21	22							
A group of relatives	23	24	25	26	27	28					
To offer something	29	30	31	32							
Glad	33	34	35	36	37						
Group who works together	38	39	40	41							

“ 24 5 27 11 38 10 26 35 7 14 10 6 21 11 29 2 15

1 10 9 24 18 33 6 15 24 17 15 21 12

20 11 40 23 14 27 23 3 10 13 16 24 38 33 21 17 29 ’

39 9 1 14 4 21 17 29 ’ 38 2 10 10 40 38 8 21 17 29

34 17 15 7 10 24 21 17 21 17 29 28 17

” 39 30 29 33 8 9 3 14 11 17 32 12 11 ”

“All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness.”

November 2020

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- 2 - Clayton Johnson
- 3 - Johnathan Humphrey
- 5 - Brenda Thomas
- 7 - Marlyce Hauge
- 8 - Jerrod Nelson
Patty Wolter Fox
- 9 - Bruce Johnson
William Wiese
- 10 - Jenny Condon
- 11 - Jeff Lachelt
Candy Johnson
LuAnn Ekstrom
- 12 - LuAnn Johnson
- 13 - Norm Wiemers
- 14 - Pat McCaulley
- 18 - Brie Wiese
- 20 - Kathy Kaufman
Janet Johnson
- 24 - Kim Nelson
- 25 - Sandy Nimke
- 27 - Lester Tammen
- 28 - Mark Hauge
Heather Leith
Sara Woolery

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- 26, 1967 - Joe & Sherri Gray
- 27, 1999 - Bruce & Michelle Johnson

USHERS

- Tony Steinberg, Chairman
- Merle Nelson Craig Johnson
- Justin Widlund

ACOLYTES

- 1 - Clayton Johnson
- 8 - Emery Pelz
- 15 - Logan Thoma
- 22 - Kyle Widlund
- 29 - Cody Jondle

WORSHIP ASSISTANT:

ALTAR GUILD: Toni Tews & Anne Lachelt

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9 AM Sunday School & Worship with Holy Communion	2 7 PM Church Council	3	4 9 AM Circle & Bible Study	5	6	7 5 PM Worship
8 9 AM Sunday School & Worship	9 11:15 AM Meals on Wheels - thru Friday	10	11 9 AM Patchwork Pals 6 PM Confirmation	12	13	14 5 PM Worship
15 9 AM Sunday School & Worship	16	17 9 AM W/ELCA Ex. Board	18 9 AM Patchwork Pals 6 PM Confirmation	19	20	21 5 PM Worship
22 9 AM Sunday School & Worship	23	24	25	26 HAPPY THANKSGIVING	27	28 5 PM Worship
29 9 AM Sunday School & Worship	30					