

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As the seasons change, things also change in our Church. As most of you heard last Sunday, Pastor Beth will be retiring on December 1st and will be away from the Church until then. We understand this is sudden and may come with many questions. Despite this major change, the board, in consultation with District Superintendent Brian Oliver, is hard at work to be sure that we continue on with as much stability as possible. Sunday Services, children's and youth ministries, the Attic, and other important programs will all continue as usual as long as we all continue to step up to volunteer. We are finding temporary coverage as needed on Sundays while D.S Oliver helps with a long term solution. I would also like to thank Don Bardole for his willingness to help us on the first Sunday of the month with Communion and the sermon. If you have additional questions or seek further clarity regarding this situation, I encourage you to speak to a board member.

We also want to ensure that everyone is getting the care they need personally from the church right now, which comes with a reminder. This does not always mean a Pastor visiting someone. Now might be the perfect time to go visit that church friend who has been going through a difficult time or call someone to invite them back to church. We all have a role to play in the body of Christ. Ultimately, this is a time for us to come together and not let disruption pull us apart. We know that our church is resilient and that our connection is strong.

Brian Bishop

Board chairperson

Heavenly Father, we pray for guidance during this time, trusting that You have good plans for our church. Holy Spirit, please guide those discerning the next steps in our ministry. We ask for unity, peace, and continued focus on Christ, so that we may be fruitful in our community. Amen

IOWA CONFERENCE of the UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



We are blessed to announce that a group from our church will be attending the 2025 Fall Ingathering Meeting in Mount Pleasant on Saturday, November 1, at 1:00 P.M. All are welcome to join and attend.

Thank You!! We will be delivering 15 school kits and 30 personal hygiene kits to be used here in the United States or abroad as needed. As you will recall, we hosted a free-will-donation breakfast on August 31. With your generosity \$485 was raised for customs charges for overseas shipping and any other supplies needed.

During April through we will be gathering supplies for birthing kits in honor of Mother's Day. And, in honor of Father's Day, we will be collecting new and gently used hand tools and garden implements including rakes and shovels. We will start collecting these items April 15. More information to come.

If you would like to attend the District Ingathering Meeting on Saturday, November 1, please contact the church. We will line up transportation accordingly. We will be departing from the church parking lot at 11:30 a.m. and be returning near 4:00 p.m.

Ingathering Committee

Karen Phelps, Lois Miller, Jan Menary, Joan Decker, and Delores Reinhart

2025 Board Members

SPRC

Delores Reinhart
Pat McGovern
Lois Miller

<u>Trustees</u>

Blair Belland Marc Phelps Micah Schnebbe

Finance

Brad Gremmer Sherry Pope John Gillaspie

<u>N.O.W.</u>

Erica Wilkinson Jenn Lane Kelly Loftus

OFFICE HOURS

Mondays

:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Tuesdays

8:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Wednesdays

By Appointment

Thursdays

8:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Fridays

By Appointment

October Attendance

10/5-82 10/12 - 108

10/19 - 89 10/26 - 105

Prayer requests can be emailed to office@stpaulsumcwilliamsburg.com

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

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Sunday Family Program Coordinator: Sarah

email: spumc.childrens.ministry@gmail.com

Music Director: Noah Cornelius

Organist: Sue Heitmann

Custodian: Melissa Savage

Editor: Shelley Berger Deadline for news for next month's newsletter is the 20th of the month.





Financial Report

CURRENT HILLS BANK BALANCE AS OF October 29, 2025

\$159,950.77 which includes the following breakdown:

- \$72,621.35 General Fund from Offerings
- \$30,604.15 Capital Improvements account
- \$16,910.00 in designated amounts such as missions, scholarships, etc.
- \$6,252.67 Memorial Fund account
- \$50,472.60 6-month CD which matures 11/29/25

This leaves \$55,711.35 AVAILABLE to cover general expenses.

Edward Jones, Williamsburg Summary

4 MONTH CD MATURING 11/28/25: \$41,000.00

YEAR TO DATE SUMMARY - 1/1/25 to 10/29/25 (44 weeks)

- Total offering given to the General Fund received YTD: \$218,976.00 (\$4,976.73 average weekly offering)
- Total Capital Improvement offering YTD: \$16,910.00 (\$384.00 average weekly offering)
- Total Interest Income YTD: \$12,106.12
- Total expenses paid YTD: \$236,944.19 (\$5,385.10 average weekly expenses)

Iowa Methodist Foundation Fund

(From Marilyn Tanner Memorial) as of 9/30/25 Balance \$104,174.38 (\$100,000 of this money is designated by the family for a future sanctuary)













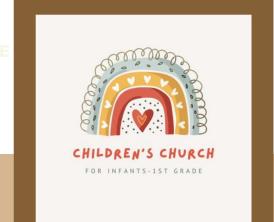
SPUMC Children & family Ministries



SUNDAY SCHOOL - PRE-K THROUGH 3RD GRADE

THE NEXT UNIT WE WILL EXPLORE IN SUNDAY SCHOOL IS CALLED "FOLLOW THE STAR". MANY FAMILIES HIT THE ROAD DURING THE CHRISTMAS SEASON, WHETHER IT'S TO VISIT LOVED ONES OR TAKE A MUCH-NEEDED BREAK. IT'S A TIME-HONORED TRADITION-ONE THAT MIGHT EVEN BE TRACED BACK TO THE FIRST CHRISTMAS WHEN A BRIGHT STAR DROPPED A PIN ON A SPECIAL LOCATION TO GUIDE PEOPLE TO THE BIRTHPLACE OF THE SAVIOR. KIDS WILL LEARN THAT GOD GIVES PEOPLE TO GUIDE US, GOD GIVES HOPE TO GUIDE US, GOD GIVES A SAVIOR TO GUIDE US, AND GOD GIVES DIRECTION TO GUIDE US.

WE'RE STILL WELCOMING VOLUNTEERS FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL FROM 8:45-9:45 AM! IT'S AN EASY WAY TO PLUG IN, WITH MINIMAL TIME COMMITMENT!!



CHILDREN'S CHURCH NEEDS YOU!



🎉 EPIC JR. (PRE-K-3RD GRADE) 🎉

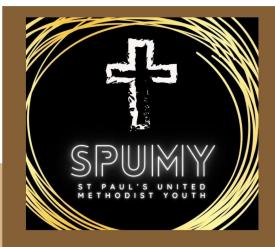
EPIC JR. IS OUR AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN IN PRE-K THROUGH 3RD GRADE! WE MEET UNTIL 5:00 PM, WITH SUPERVISION AVAILABLE UNTIL 5:30 PM. OUR REMANING FALL DATES ARE 10/29 AND 11/12. THIS MONTH WE'RE BEGINNING OUR NEW SERIES "IN SEASON". EACH SEASON-FALL, WINTER, SPRING, AND SUMMER-BRINGS SOMETHING UNIQUE AND WONDERFUL. FROM LEAVES CHANGING COLORS TO FLOWERS BLOOMING OR ANIMALS HIBERNATING, THE CHANGING SEASONS REMIND US THAT NO MATTER WHAT, GOD IS WITH US THROUGH IT ALL. IN THIS SERIES, KIDS WILL DISCOVER HOW WE CAN RESPOND TO GOD IN EVERY SEASON OF LIFE. THEY'LL LEARN THAT GOD'S WORDS ARE ALWAYS IN SEASON, GOD LEADS US IN EVERY SEASON, GOD HEARS US NO MATTER THE SEASON, AND WE CAN THANK GOD FOR EVERY SEASON.



PB& J (4TH, 5TH AND 6TH GRADERS)

PB&J IS OUR GROUP FOR 4TH-6TH GRADERS, MEETING WEDNESDAYS FROM 6:30-7:30 PM IN THE BRIDGE. OUR NEWEST SERIES WE WILL BE STARTING IS CALLED "FOLLOW THE STAR". THIS SERIES EXPLORES HOW GOD GUIDES US—JUST AS HE GUIDED PEOPLE TO JESUS' BIRTHPLACE THAT FIRST CHRISTMAS. DURING THIS SEASON OF TRAVEL AND TRADITION, KIDS WILL LEARN THAT GOD GIVES PEOPLE, HOPE, A SAVIOR, AND DIRECTION TO GUIDE US.

PB&J IS ALSO BUSY WORKING ON THEIR SPEAKING ROLES FOR THE UPCOMING CHRISTMAS PROGRAM. "THE 12 SYMBOLS OF CHRISTMAS".



SPUMY YOUTH GROUP (GRADES 7-12)

OUR SPUMY KIDS HAVE BEEN BUSY FINDING FUN AND MEANINGFUL WAYS TO SERVE AND GROW TOGETHER! RECENTLY, THEY SPENT TIME PLAYING GAMES WITH RESIDENTS AT HIGHLAND RIDGE AND HELPED ASSEMBLE IN-GATHERING BAGS FOR THOSE IN NEFD.

IN THEIR LESSONS, THE GROUP CONTINUES TO DIG INTO THE OLD TESTAMENT, EXPLORING ITS STORIES AND LESSONS THROUGH STUDY AND SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR OUR ANNUAL SPUMY LOCK-IN ON NOVEMBER 15–16TH!



UPCOMING DATES OF INTEREST

- NOV. 9TH SUNDAY SCHOOL / SINGING
- **NOV. 15-16[™] SPUMY LOCK-IN**
- **NOV. 26TH NO EPIC**
- NOV. 30TH NO SUNDAY SCHOOL/ SINGING
- DEC. 10TH -FULL DRESS REHEARSAL FOR PROGRAM
- DEC. 14TH CHRISTMAS PROGRAM
- **DEC. 21ST HAPPY BIRTHDAY JESUS PARTY**



♠ MARK YOUR CALENDARS! CHRISTMAS PROGRAM — DECEMBER 14, 2025 ♠

WE'RE EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE THIS YEAR'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM: "THE 12 SIGNS OF CHRISTMAS". IN THE WEEKS LEADING UP TO THE PERFORMANCE, WE'LL BE BUSY PREPARING AND WOULD LOVE EVERYONE'S PARTICIPATION.

- PB&J KIDS WITH SPEAKING ROLES WILL PRACTICE THEIR LINES DURING PB&J ON WEDNESDAYS AT 6:30 PM.
- ALL STUDENTS (PRE-K THROUGH 6TH GRADE) ARE ENCOURAGED TO JOIN MUSIC PRACTICE SUNDAYS AT 9:15 AM IN ACOUSTIC AVE WITH MS. MOLLY.

PLEASE HELP YOUR CHILD ATTEND AS MANY REHEARSALS AS POSSIBLE SO WE CAN MAKE THIS A JOYFUL AND POLISHED CELEBRATION OF THE SEASON!



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https://www.youtube.com/c/stpaulsumcwburg





EPIC MEALS

NOV 5TH EPIC

- · HOT DOGS & CHILI DOGS
- · CHIPS
- · CORN
- · CINNAMON ROLLS

NOV 12TH EPIC & EPIC JR

WEAR RED, WHITE & BLUE

- · SPACHETTI
- · (PICS IN A BLANKET FOR EPIC JR) · LETTUCE SALAD
- · LETTUCE SALAD & BROCCOLI
- · CARLIC BREAD
- · DESSERT

NOV 19TH EPIC

SERVICE NIGHT - MEAL PREP FOR THANKSCIVING DINNER

- · PIZZA
- · DESSERT

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