

St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Henry celebrated 130th anniversary Sunday

By Randy Bader

With the cooling breezes of fall stirring the afternoon air, the sanctuary of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Henry filled to capacity, rang out with voices lifted in praises to the Lord for His gracious blessings throughout the past 130 years. The Celebration Service of Thanksgiving and Praise for St. Paul's anniversary was combined with the Mission Festival of the Quad-Parish consisting of St. Paul's in Henry, Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church of Clark, Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church of Raymond and Willow Lake Evangelical Lutheran Church of Willow Lake.

Pastor Douglas Free of St. Paul's Lutheran in Rapid City and also President of the Dakota-Montana District of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, delivered an inspiring message based on Isaiah 55:10-11, reminding worshippers of the Lord's faithfulness and blessings over the past 130 years and directing them to the certainty of God's goodness and the promises of His gracious presence moving into the future. Pastor Randy Bader, current pastor at St. Paul's and the rest of the Quad-Parish congregations, served as worship leader. Barb Hartley served as organist for the festival service.

Following the Celebration Worship Service, the assembly of members, former members from near and far, members of the other congregations of the Quad-Parish and other neighboring congregations, packed the Henry Community Hall for a feast prepared by the members and friends of St. Paul's.

The Community Hall echoed with laughter and conversations as the people enjoyed supper and lingered for quite some time, reminiscing and telling stories of times gone by and of God's goodness and blessings throughout the past 130 years, as well as discussing plans for the future.

Lutheran services in Henry first began when Pastor Christoph Boettcher from Minnesota visited



the area in 1880, as worship services were held in homes and other facilities for a number of years. St. Paul's was officially organized in September of 1894 with eight voters signing the constitution for "St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church." The current church facility has been serving the congregation since its dedication on August 24, 1918.

Throughout the 130 year history of St. Paul's, there have been a number of different congregational alignments with other area churches, including those in Grover, Clark, Hague Township and Florence at various times. St. Paul's Lutheran is a member of the WELS - The Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. Currently, St. Paul's is also part of the Quad-Parish of WELS congregations consisting of Bethlehem Lutheran in Raymond, Peace Lutheran in Clark and Willow Lake Lutheran in Willow Lake - an arrangement that began in July of 2023.

As the daylight was disappearing and the celebration was winding down on Sunday evening, the colors

of a beautiful sunset were stretching across the sky. "More evidence of the Lord's blessings to us," said Pastor Randy Bader. "If the Lord wills, tomorrow will be a new day and another opportunity to serve our gracious God. So many things have changed since this congregation was founded in 1894, but Jesus' promises still stand, and His mission for us to share the good news of His love and salvation with the world continues until He returns in glory. The future is in His hands!"

WEATHER

Robert Cole - Official Weather Observer

	HI	LO	PR
October 8.....	72	41	0
October 9.....	75	46	0
October 10.....	82	47	0
October 11.....	83	53	0
October 12.....	64	43	0
October 13.....	67	40	0
October 14.....	55	33	0
2024 precipitation to date			18.57"
2023 precipitation to date			17.71"



Elementary students in Clark educated in fire safety from local first responders

National Fire Prevention Week was Sunday, October 6 through Saturday, October 12.

Last Thursday, October 10, the Clark, Bradley, Raymond and Garden City fire departments held their eighth annual fire safety presentation. Elementary students in the Clark School District, preschool through fifth grade, got the opportunity to go to the Clark Fire Hall and learn about fire prevention and safety and were allowed to get hands-on experience with the fire trucks and hoses, ambulance and law enforcement vehicles.

"The kids had a lot of fun and learned a lot about

fire safety," said Clark Elementary School Principal Jon Redmond. "We appreciate the fire department for putting this presentation on for us each year."

Pictured in the top photo is Shane Hagstrom, fire chief of the Clark Fire Department, speaks to fourth grade students about safety tips with burning candles inside one's home.

Pictured in the bottom photo is Garden City Fire Chief Jason Foster assists Clark preschool student Alex Salmonson hold the fire hose that is blasting with water.

Photos by Trudi Gaikowski



Above: a group photo of the Christensen and Seefeldt families at the Seefeldt family farm south of Clark.

Submitted photo

Bird numbers, weather favorable for memorable upcoming pheasant opener

By Carolyn Olson

The 2024 traditional pheasant hunting season is quickly approaching in South Dakota. There are multiple opening dates depending on the type of license and the season. South Central South Dakota is known as "The Pheasant Capital of the World."

Youth Only Season was Saturday, Sept. 28 through Sunday, Oct. 6. Resident Only weekend was Saturday, Oct. 12 through Monday, Oct. 14. The traditional pheasant hunting season starts Saturday, Oct. 19 and will run through Friday, Jan. 31, 2025.

Shooting Hours

Shooting hours are from 10:00 a.m. Central Time to sunset for the

entire season.

Daily/possession limit

The daily limit is three rooster pheasants, and the possession limit is fifteen.

License/I.D.

Hunting licenses are required for all hunters, including youth. They are available for residents and non-residents. Non-resident license fees include: non-resident small game of \$121.00 for 10 days or two five-day periods. The cost for Non-resident youth small game is \$10.00 for 10 days or two five-day periods for ages 12 to 17.

For nonresident shooting preserve, one day is \$46.00, and a five-day is \$76.00.

With the light winds and cooler

temperatures, the weather should be beautiful for opening weekend.

According to the Clark County Conservation Officer Zach Thomsen, the bird population is good this year. He states that with having the good spring and easy winter we had, there should be plenty of birds for the season. "From last weekend, I saw about two birds per person on average," Thomsen said.

He added, "With the dryer temperatures, make sure to be cognitive of fire dangers. Also, with being in the midst of harvest, be mindful of landowners and their equipment on the roads. Overall, be safe, and have a good pheasant season."

Pheasant Opener (continued on page 15)

Clark School Board hears building updates, denies fundraiser at October meeting

By Carolyn Olson

The Clark School Board met in the Clark High School library on Monday, October 14 at 6:30 p.m. The meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m.

The board of governance approved the October claims list for payment, new state mileage rate of \$0.67 and approved appointment of Todd Fjelland as the Clark School District 12-2 ASBSD Delegate for the upcoming Legislative Association 2024 annual meeting. The board also approved the contribution of \$160.00 to district lawyer Rodney Freeman for attendance to National Education Law Association 2024 annual meeting. Superintendent Travis Ahrens made the comment that it's a yearly thing that the school does.

Clark High School senior and State FCCLA president Hannah Heiman, along with her advisor, Tammie Paulson, presented the group with a summary of their trip to Seattle. Paulson showcased a book that was made with all the photos they had taken during their trip.

The Board of Governance then moved onto discuss the use of district facilities by the Clark Pool Committee for a fundraising event with alcohol on the premises and consideration to give or deny approval. Greg Marx was present on

behalf of the pool committee and gave the board his feedback on what their plans were if it were approved. After a brief discussion, the board denied the request. Ahren's stated, "We'd be willing to help in other ways, but we stress keeping alcohol, drugs, weapons, etc. out of our school, and I think that would be giving the wrong message."

Shannon Huber's hire was approved as the junior high girls basketball coach for the 2024-2025 season with a stipend salary of \$2,519.

Reports:

Superintendent Ahrens gave an update on the CTE building. The upper corner was re-tinned late last week, and this week, Active Heating of Watertown is installing the fabricating and welding hood. Efraimson Electric will come back and work on the electrical portion. The wall that separated the wash bay and main shop area has been fully removed and is being cleaned up. There will also be some concrete work done. The Building Trades class will be making storage sheds and will auction them off, Ahrens explained.

He then handed out a sheet to each of the board members that covered current enrollment as of September. There is currently 471 students enrolled into the Clark School District; the number is up four from last year's enrollment. Business Manager Mary Nelson

has been working on the annual report; it has been submitted, finalized and approved. Auditors were here September 17-18. "It went really well," Nelson stated.

Clark High/Middle School Principal Jennifer Heggelund, shared that Pre-ACT is coming up this week and teacher in-service is on Friday. She mentioned that the middle school and high school are starting a Student of the Month with one per grade level. "It will focus on their character type traits," Heggelund stated.

Clark Elementary School Principal Jon Redmond mentioned how busy the elementary schedule has been of late. The students had their Fire Hall visit last week for Fire Safety Week and a bus safety presentation on Tuesday this week for National School Bus Safety Week, which is October 21-25. He commented that the new student council is going well, explaining that they hold meetings once a month. Redmond said that the elementary school is also doing a Student of the Month program with their reward being a pizza party.

There was no executive session at this meeting.

The next regular meeting of the Clark School Board will be Monday, November 11, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. in the library at the Clark High School.