

Partnership News

July 2024

Immanuel Lutheran Church
St Paul Lutheran Church
Monona Lutheran Church
Our Savior Deaf Lutheran Church

Pastor Michael Erdman
Pastor Grant Sorenson
Pastor Thomas Nowak

Partnership Game Night, next on August 6th @5:30pm at St Paul

Pastor Michael Erdman

Please consider joining us for our next partnership Game Night at St Paul. We plan on doing one the first Tuesday of every month, starting at 5:30pm with a meal. After the food, we will have a variety of games available, including cards, party games, and activities for kids. There will not be a worship service or bible study. Socializing is the goal. We hope that every one of all ages and stages of life will join us each month.

Corn Roast and Potluck at Monona, August 18th @11:30am

Pastor Tom Nowak

Come and join us on August 18th for a Corn Roast and Potluck, along with great fellowship and friends.

It all starts at Monona with a wonderful Corn Roast at 11:30am.

What an opportunity to strengthen each other in fellowship with the four churches of our partnership.

Please see and sign the sign up sheet at your home congregation so we will properly prepare. Bring a friend if you wish. (If you forget to sign up, you are still welcome to come. We will have plenty of food!)

We look forward to great weather and a time to mingle among those gathered to increase and strengthen our growth together. Until then!

Partnership Update

Pastor Michael Erdman

Back on June 9th, we officially started the next phase of our partnership together when all the churches passed the partnership launch resolution. A great deal has been happening behind the scenes since then.

The new Provisional Partnership Council has now met twice, and we have put the next steps of the plan into motion. (Reminder: You are all welcome to join us for the next meeting on August 11th @1:30pm at Monona.)

First, we have formally requested and received financial support for hiring Larry Ulrich of Generis from the South Wisconsin District Micro-Grant program.

Second, we have signed a contract with Generis and begun working with Larry Ulrich. Starting July 2nd, the pastors of our partnership have been meeting with Larry Ulrich weekly via Zoom. For the first few months, Larry will be focusing on teaching the pastors, pushing us to grow and encouraging us to become a better team with a unified purpose and vision. Larry promised to push us out of our comfort zones and confront us with difficult truths and decisions. He is already keeping that promise, which is essential to finding our path forward. (During this initial phase, Jeff Thur and Bess MacLeod from Monona will be following along watching the recordings of these zoom meetings.)

The next phase will be to begin the Why Discovery process with the members of all of our congregations, starting this fall. This will help us find a common purpose and vision for the partnership.

Originally, we were planning on doing this Why Discovery process with Nathan Meador. However things changed on June 10th when President John Wille died. While 1st Vice President Eric Skovgaard has stepped up to fill in the role of President, many of the responsibilities now also rest with Nathan Meador, the only other pastor on the district staff. As such, Nathan Meador may not have time to work with us on our timetable.

That said, we will definately be doing some form of the Why Discovery process this fall, we just need to work out the details. Who exactly will be doing it has not yet been nailed down yet, but we have some good ideas. We will let you know when we have more information.