

# The Mapleton PRESS

Serving the communities of the Maple Valley-Anthon Oto, Charter Oak-Ute, & Schleswig Community School Districts



Thursday, August 17, 2023

Mapleton, Iowa 51034 | USPS 328-640

Volume 149, Number 33

www.mapletonpress.com

\$1.00



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## St. Paul's Lutheran Church celebrates 125th Anniversary

By Jenna Comes

St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Ute started preparing for its 125th Anniversary in August 2022.

The 125th celebration weekend will kickoff on Friday, August 18 at 7 p.m. The public is invited to attend the opening of the 1998 Centennial Time capsule and an ice cream social held on the church lawn. Historical items will also be on display for public viewing inside the church's Sunday School and LYF rooms.

A new time capsule will be "re-buried" on Sunday, Sept. 10 as part of St. Paul's Sunday School Rally Sunday "Kick-Off."

Pastor Nathan Peitsch said, "The 125th steering committee will leaving it up to members of the congregation to see what should be added to the 2023 time capsule. Not a lot of members remember what was in the 1998 time capsule, so it will be interesting evening for many."

The congregation will have a 125th Anniversary worship service on Sunday, August 20 at 10 a.m. Rev. Dr. Steve Turner, Iowa District West President, will be giving the sermon.

Following the worship service, Staley's Food Service

will provide a chicken dinner at the Ute Town and Country building. This is free to the public, starting at 11:30 a.m.

Gary McCall, with the steering committee said, "Our 125th Steering Committee wanted to make it a "free" meal, as a expression of St. Paul's deep gratitude and thanks to our members in our congregation and the public who have been so supportive of our congregation and its Pastors over the past 125 years."

### Celebrating 125th Anniversary all year

The 125th steering committee started planning for this celebration last August 2022 and met the first Monday of each month.

They chose the theme for 125th celebration "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and tomorrow" - Hebrews 13:8.

They have hosted a number of events throughout the year not only to raise funds for the celebration but to get the congregation excited for the anniversary.

"It is a monumental year," said head elder Bruce Mohr.

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St. Paul's will open the time capsule from 1998 on Friday, August 18 at 7 p.m. as part of their 125th anniversary celebration.



## Hoefling starts role as K-8 principal in Anthon

Mistaya Hoefling is the new K-8 principal in Anthon as the 2023-2024 school year gets underway on Wednesday, Aug. 23.

Ms. Hoefling graduated from the University of Nebraska - Lincoln with a degree in advertising and then received her Elementary and Early Childhood Education degrees. She then earned her masters' degree in Educational Leadership from the University of Northern Iowa.

She has spent the last eight years as the curriculum and professional development director for OAB-CIG and previously taught in various elementary grade levels.

"While in that role (curriculum and professional development director), I learned a lot about budgets, curriculum, and managing people, but I missed working with the students and staff that had drawn me to education in the first place."



Mistaya Hoefling

Hoefling said, "Working with a number of administrators over the years, I have seen first hand the impact that a building administrator has on the people in their building. I believe that it is important for each person in a building, both staff and students, to know that they are important and add value to our students' educational experience."

She noted that as a principal, she will have the opportunity to build up and encourage all those she works with.

"I went into administration to have a greater positive impact on all of those with whom I have the opportunity to work," she said.

Ms. Hoefling is most excited about getting to know the K-8 students and staff at the Anthon building.

"I look forward to the opportunity to shape an environment where students can thrive academically, socially, and emotionally," she said. "I want to create a nurturing and inspiring atmosphere, working collaboratively with teachers and staff, and witnessing the growth and development of our students."

The Anthon building has a number of new staff this year, so Ms. Hoefling hopes to have the staff participate in some fun team building

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## Ute Fun Days are this weekend

Ute Fun Days 2023, an annual celebration sponsored by the Ute Community Club, will start on Friday, Aug. 18. St. Paul's Lutheran Church will kick-off their 125th Celebration was the opening of their

time capsule and an ice cream social at the church. Also Friday night is a Poker Glow Poker Walk at 8 p.m. Proceeds from this event will go towards Autism Awareness. Registration starts at 7:30 p.m.

at 402 E. 4th Street (Kim's). Saturday, Aug. 19, brings activities for the whole family, starting with an Autism Walk, with regis-

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FILE PHOTO BY JENNA COMES

Ute Fun Days are August 18-20. A popular activity is face painting in the park.