

August 2019

“Proclaim”

The Newsletter of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church



DATES TO REMEMBER

August 4

Summer Picnic &
School Registration

August 9 - 10

Hillsboro Charity
Tractor Pull

August 24

9:00 AM
Work Day at School

August 27

5:30 – 7:30 PM
School Open House &
Parent/Faculty
Meeting

September 3

8:00 AM
School Begins

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From the Pastor

SERVICE IN THE KINGDOM

Then the mother of Zebedee's sons came to him with her sons, kneeling and asking something of him. ²¹ He said to her, "What do you want?"

She said to him, "Promise that in your kingdom these two sons of mine may sit, one on your right hand and one on your left hand."

²² But Jesus answered, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink?"

They said to him, "We are."

²³ He said to them, "You will indeed drink my cup, but to sit on my right hand and on my left hand is not for me to give; rather these places belong to those for whom they have been prepared by my Father."

²⁴ When the ten heard this, they were angry with the two brothers.

²⁵ But Jesus summoned them and said, "You know that the rulers of the nations lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. ²⁶ It will not be that way among you. Instead whoever wants to become great among you will be your servant, ²⁷ and whoever wants to be first among you will be your slave— ²⁸ just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many" (Matthew 20:20-28).

In my college and seminary education, the phrase "Herr Pastor" was used more than once. "Herr" is German for "Mister," or could even be considered like "Sir." It's a simple title that's used to show respect. There was a time when pastors were very much respected, honored, revered ("Reverend Meyerhoff"). They still are, but probably not in quite the same way and certainly not as universally. In the days of "Herr Pastor," the attitude was pretty much: Whatever the pastor says is law, no disagreement, no debate. Personally, I'm glad we are past the days of "Herr Pastor."

The pastor is God's servant as well as the servant of those he serves. This doesn't mean he does not have authority. He does, and it's the authority of God's Word. When pastors (Latin for "shepherds") teach the Word to the God's flock under their care, those "sheep" of Jesus are to listen and follow as if Jesus himself were speaking. The greatest authority the pastor has, and it's the authority Jesus has given to all people, is to forgive sins. The difference is that the pastor is called to use the authority to forgive sins by a local congregation on its behalf in both the public setting of a worship service and in the private conversations where someone confesses their sin.

The work of a pastor can be glorious, but a pastor isn't to be glorified. Followers of Jesus shouldn't look for glory. This is what the disciples in this Scripture reading did not yet understand. For them, it was kind of like when children argue over which one is loved most by mom or dad. It shouldn't even be an argument. Children don't exist to be the favorite child. Each is (or certainly ought to be) loved by parents as much as other. The disciples weren't called by Jesus to fill a hierarchy and be ranked accordingly. They were called to faith, and then in faith to follow and serve.

(continued on next page)

Church News

From the Pastor (*continued from previous page*)

So it is for every Christian. Each of us is loved equally by God – and his love is infinite! Paul's prayer for us in Ephesians 3 is that God would use his almighty power in our hearts, so that Christ will live there, so that we know his love *that surpasses knowledge*, so that we are filled with the fullness of God. In this power, love, and fullness of Christ, then we serve.

This will be a challenging year for us. While I can't say it will be more challenging than any other, the fact is that, as your pastor, I will be spread a little thinner as I also fulfill the duties of principal. I do this in service, not for glory. I'm not hoping that people will say what a great principal I am, or what a great pastor, for that matter. I'm praying that God will strengthen me to do both jobs well, and that you will be patient and forgiving when I make mistakes or fail in some way.

I also ask you to consider, as you are able, how you might be able to step up and help us all together, as a congregation, to carry out the gospel ministry we share. Can you support our gospel ministry by volunteering to clean church if you haven't done it before? Can you support our gospel ministry by volunteering to help with the care of the grounds throughout the year, or at a certain time of year? This might include mowing, weeding, or snow-shoveling. Can you volunteer to help with maintenance, which could include fixing, patching, painting? Can you help with computer-related things? Is there something else you can do that you think might be useful in the church? Can you serve on a committee, even short-term? Let me or Jan Fick know. It's a joy to be able to serve together for the gospel!

SCHOOL WORK DAY

Lots of things have been happening at school this summer to improve the look and functionality, but there are still some things to be accomplished to make our school student ready before school starts on September 3rd. We would like to have 1 more work day on Saturday, August 24 to install the refurbished coat racks, bathroom partitions, touchup paint, and any other odds and ends. We will meet at 9:00am and refreshments and lunch will be provided. Thank you for your help.

HELP IS NEEDED FOR HILLSBORO CHARITY TRACTOR PULL AUGUST 9-10!!

St. Paul's churches in Hillsboro, and Wonewoc and Zion in Elroy are teaming up again this year to sell concessions at the Hillsboro Charity Tractor Pull. Lots of volunteers are needed. There are shifts available both Friday and Saturday. If you can help, can contact Steve Mitchell at 608-572-1747

School Open House August 27, 5:30 – 7:30 PM



All school families are invited to attend St. Paul's School Open House on Tuesday, August 27. From 5:30 – 6:45, you can stop by the school, bring supplies and check out the summer facelifts. Then at 6:45, all parents are asked and expected to attend an informational session with Principal Snyder and the faculty. **Parents, please attend this session if at all possible, as there is much to discuss regarding the coming year.**

BOXTOPS FOR EDUCATION

Box Tops for Education is going digital! That means no more clipping. You download the app, scan your grocery receipt with your phone and eligible products are automatically added to your school's account. Traditional Box Tops is being phased out, but will continue to be found on products in your store and you may still cut them out and send them in. (We are working on ways to scan for those who don't have a smartphone and will update you as we have information).

Baptisms



... *"Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."*



School Scoop

Celebrating 139 Years of
Christian Education

NEW YEAR, NEW CIRCUMSTANCES, SAME JESUS

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever (Hebrews 13:8).

There's nothing wrong with saying it: We were all sad to see the Zimmermans go. Mr. Z. did excellent work as teacher and principal. Sarah volunteered in many ways, most of them unseen, and was always a happy presence. She showed love and consideration to all. The kids are all good kids with unique personalities, and they all added something special to our family.

Now we face challenges. Because no one accepted our call to be principal and teacher, Mrs. Hagemann kindly volunteered to move from kindergarten to grades 6-8. By default as much as anything, I now have the role of principal. Because Mrs. Fricke did not accept our call to teach kindergarten, Miss Brander will have to teach 3K, 4K, AND kindergarten. These are challenges. Yet they are challenges placed before us by God, challenges through which he means to bless our school in ways that we mostly cannot see yet, but in some ways we can.

Mrs. Fick is now our full-time administrative assistant. We've really needed this for years, and she has volunteered much extra time beyond 20 hours a week, but now we know that we have her for 40 hours a week, and more when necessary. This is a blessing!

Mrs. Barb Santas will be a teaching assistant for 3K-Kindergarten. She taught special ed for many years in Hillsboro, volunteered for several years at Zion Lutheran School in Columbus, WI, where her grandchildren attended school, and has helped out in Mrs. Snyder's room in the past. With her great knowledge and experience, and her willingness to help as much as needed, the children under Miss Brander will be taught and served well. This is a blessing!

Mrs. Karen Wafle will be leading the After-School Care Program. She has experience from helping with the BASE program at Wonewoc-Center and a great eagerness to serve. We really needed someone since Mrs. Fick is now full-time in the office. Mrs. Huebner (Miss Anita) and Mrs. Weber (Miss Jo) will still be helping with the child-care after PreK lets out. All this is a blessing!

Personally, I am grateful for this opportunity to have my office at school where I can see and interact with the students more regularly. I'm making necessary adjustments to my work and my schedule that will be helpful even when I'm no longer principal. My move to the school also means we now have a place for anyone from our church who could benefit from professional, Christian counseling. The office in church can still be used for pastoral counseling or conversations, but it will also be a private place where, through the use of a laptop computer set up there, people can video-conference with a counselor to address any number of personal challenges or difficulties. By the way, such counseling comes only after the person in need has met with me and we determine together that professional counseling would be helpful. This, too, is a blessing!

The greatest blessing is that Jesus is still Lord over our school. He still visits students every day through his word, proclaiming forgiveness and peace through his blood. He still blesses students and teachers with love and strength to do their assigned tasks and do them well. He still protects our school and leads us all in the paths of righteousness, which is the path of faith.

To make this a great year, what do we need from parents? We ask that you continue to support and work with our teachers as they serve your children. We ask that you make weekly Sunday worship a priority. I understand that you may not make it every week, but the importance of God's Word for you and your children cannot be overstated. Don't deprive yourselves of it. We want you to be blessed by the Word and by the fellowship of fellow Christians in worship. We also ask that, as you have time and ability, you continue to volunteer to help. It takes more than a good and experienced faculty and staff to make for a successful school and school year. It takes Jesus, and Jesus loves and longs to use his people together as family to accomplish his will, so yes, it also takes you.

It will be a good year in Jesus, together.



**Let us Ever Walk With Jesus in the Heartland”
56th LWMS Annual Convention
Des Moines, IA, June 27-30, 2019**

Once again I was blessed to be able to represent our congregation as a delegate to the Lutheran Women’s Missionary Society convention. There were 4 ladies from our circuit – 2 from St. Paul’s, Hillsboro, and 1 from St. Paul’s, Mauston, that were able to join me and over 900 others for this annual event that offers mission support, spiritual renewal, inspiration and fellowship. For the opening and closing processional, I was privileged to carry one of the 63 flags that represent the countries in which we are currently carrying out mission work. What an honor and humbling experience!

During the convention, we learned about the expanding outreach efforts by our mission teams in Latin America and Africa and the continuing growth of the mission field in East Asia. In addition, home missionaries (one from Mt. Horeb here in Wisconsin) shared their experiences with outreach in Wisconsin and Minnesota. Workshops included the topics of new mission opportunities in Vietnam, a panel discussion by missionary wives who shared their experiences and one woman’s experience as a mission counselor in East Asia. The display room offered opportunities to see pictures and objects from the various mission fields.

Convention highlights included the presentation of over \$132,000 to WELS mission projects and the opportunity to hear about latest developments from the Home and World Mission Administrators. The offerings that we gather for LWMS in our congregation are included in this amount and dispersed at this convention. Offerings from the opening service were nearly \$30,000 and after closing service offerings were totaled and added, they also would be dispersed to designated projects.

In addition to the opening and closing worship services, each day began and ended with devotions based on the theme of walking with Jesus – walking and working together with the truth, reminding us of how He walks to us as sinners, with us when we are troubled and carrying our various crosses, and with us as we travel on to His heavenly kingdom.

The fellowship aspect of these conventions is such a memorable experience. As you walk to sessions, join groups at the table for meals, or wait for the elevator, there will always be an opportunity for conversation with fellow Christians from so many parts of the country. This was a wonderful way to remember the church at large and our common ties – walking with Jesus through this journey!!!

Next year’s convention will be June 25-28, 2020, in Athens, GA. The theme is “2020 Vision for Missions”.

LWMS is women dedicated to serving Jesus by increasing awareness of, interest in, and support of the mission outreach of WELS.

Serving in Christ,

Dianne Pacl

“10 FOR 10” COMING TO ST. PAUL’S THIS OCTOBER

“All the church ever talks about is money!”

You’ve heard statements like that before. You may even have said something like that before. If you think about it honestly, you know it’s not true. Not only have we *not* done regular and significant stewardship emphases each year, but the statement is also misleading. God wants a lot more than our money! He wants us to love him with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength. If we could love God in that way, money would be a non-issue at St. Paul’s.

You received a letter earlier this summer that laid out for you the current financial situation. We’ve sent out letters like that every so often. It’s not that we mind doing this, and you, as God’s people, have always responded well. But it’s time we have a fuller and more personal look at the issue of giving. Jesus spoke about it (often!), so we should, too.

Spoiler alert: You will hear biblical preaching on the stewardship of treasures this fall at St. Paul’s. Late in September, we will challenge our St. Paul’s family to give a tithe (10% their income) *OR* to increase the proportion of what they are giving for their weekly offerings for a period of ten weeks. Why? Our giving shows the Lord the honor, love, and gratitude we have for what Christ has done for us. Generous giving is one of the ways that faith-filled hearts respond to the riches of Christ. Giving is *an act of worship*. That’s the only reason we pass offering plates during church services.

The practice of *tithing* (giving 10%) is at least as old as Abraham (Genesis 14:20). In Old Testament Israel, tithing was commanded by law. In the New Testament Church, tithing—along with all other methods of giving—is inspired by the gospel of Christ. Many Christians, free from compulsion (an important point!), tithe as an exercise of their faith. Does God really have the ability to keep us safe, warm and well-fed without 10% of our income? To share an even greater proportion of our income? Faith relishes the challenge. The Spirit is up to the task!

How is it possible to give something like the tithe—and do so freely and joyfully? Christ’s love empowers his people to give generously. It flows freely from Christ *“who loved us and gave himself up for us”* (Ephesians 5:2). Our generous giving to God is a response to Christ’s willing sacrifice for us.

Finally, tithing serves New Testament Christians as a benchmark for *proportionate giving*. The Apostle Paul said, *“...each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with your income”* (1 Corinthians 16:2). As New Testament Christians, tithing is a practice to be engaged in freely rather than a requirement to be met legally. Some of us are already in the spiritual habit of tithing. Inspired by God’s grace, we may seek to give more, more often, more creatively. For others, tithing will be a big step forward as well as a significant test of faith. For still others, because of life-issues known to God, the tithe might currently be unreachable. Then what about an extra percent, or two, or three? No matter where we find ourselves on the “giving spectrum,” this is true: Our trust in God’s goodness is well-placed! *“Now to Him Who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us to Him be glory in all the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen”* (Ephesians 3:20-21).

You will be receiving several mailings, devotional pieces, and a commitment packet over the next several months as part of our **10 for 10 Stewardship Emphasis**. Receive them in the spirit they are offered: As an opportunity to grow in faith and in the grace of giving. Study them. Think about them. Pray through them. They will help keep our stewardship emphasis centered in Christ and the cross as we seek to avoid financial quick-fixes and gimmicks!

May the Lord of the Church richly bless our St. Paul’s family as we seek to excel in the grace of giving!

In Christ,

Pastor Snyder

Highlights - Quarterly Voters' Meeting - July 28, 2019

The meeting was called to order by President Steve Fick at 10:33am.

Pastor Snyder opened with a devotion and reading from 1 Corinthians Chapter 12.

Minutes of the May 5, 2019 Quarterly Voters' Meeting, May 19, 2019 Special Voters' Meeting, and June 26, 2019 Special Voters' Meeting were presented in print and approved as presented.

Pastor's Report presented by Pastor Snyder.

1. 4 Baptisms, 2 Funerals in the last quarter. 5 eighth graders were confirmed.
2. Due to Pastor's increased duties as principal, we will have a guest preacher once a month and other area pastors have offered help as well.

Elders' Report presented by Sam Mobley.

1. Confirmands Nathan Degner, Kaitlin Elder, Trinity Erie, Stacie Kopenhafer, and Willard Steckel were formally accepted as confirmed members.
2. Two ministry initiatives, The Peter Program – a discipleship program, and 10 for 10 – a stewardship program, will be introduced in the coming weeks.
3. A Welcome Home Sunday to encourage inactive members will be held in October.

Education Committee Report presented by Troy Gander.

1. Early Childhood Committee assessment has been done and recommendation is that we go to the Planning Phase. This recommendation was approved

Principal's Report presented by Pastor Snyder.

1. Expected enrollment for 2019-2020 school year is 73.
2. Faculty and Staff for 2019-2020 school year: Pastor Snyder will assume the position of principal and continue to teach catechism to grades 7 and 8. Mrs. Val Hagemann will be the 6th-8th grades teacher. Mrs. Jenell Snyder will be the 3rd-5th grades teacher. Mrs. Helen Rick will be the 1st-2nd grades teacher. Miss Annalies Brander will be the 3K-Kindergarten teacher. Miss Brander will also have a teaching assistant.
3. The school bathrooms are being remodeled this summer. The hallways and coat racks are being refurbished. New lighting will be going in the gym and the classrooms. There will be a deck built around the flagpole.
4. This will be a challenging year as some people adapt to new or expanded roles. We are asking for prayers, patience, encouragement, and help throughout the year.

Cemetery Report presented by Tom Wolfe.

1. Amount for grave openings is increasing from \$600 to \$750.

Treasurer/Finance Committee Report presented by Lee Kucher/Bruce Schroeder.

1. General Fund Debt is \$134,455.94 as of 6-30-2019. We had to borrow \$5,000 for the end of May and \$7,000 for the end of June for end of quarter expenses.
2. An amended budget for fiscal year 7-1-2019 - 6-30-2020 has been prepared and been approved by the Trustees subject to approval by the voters. This budget incorporates the responsibility changes within the staff. Motion to approve budget amendment and staff reassignment was passed.

Unfinished Business.

1. School bathroom remodel is proceeding. Will need volunteers for installing the partitions and painting.

New Business (Action Items).

1. Covered in previous reports.

Information/Discussion Items.

1. The teacherage will be occupied this year with the understanding that it is temporary pending the acceptance of a call by a new principal.

Date of next Quarterly Meeting is November 3, 2019.

The meeting was adjourned and closed with the Lord's Prayer



August 2019



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
School Begins September 3rd!! 				1	2	3 8:00 AM Elders Meeting
4 9:00 AM Worship with Communion 10:15 AM Fellowship 10:15 AM School Picnic and Registration	5 7:00 PM Worship with Communion	6	7	8	9 Hillsboro Charity Tractor Pull	10
11 9:00 AM Worship 10:15 AM Fellowship	12 5:00 PM School Registration @ St. Paul's, Mauston 7:00 PM Worship	13 6:30 PM Panther Parents	14	15	16	17
18 9:00 AM Worship with Communion 10:15 AM Fellowship	19 7:00 PM Worship with Communion	20 6:30 PM Trustees Meeting	21	22	23	24
25 9:00 AM Worship 10:15 AM Fellowship	26 7:00 PM Worship 9:00 AM Newsletter Article and Calendar Deadline	27 5:30 - 6:30 PM School Open House 6:45 - 7:30 Parent/Faculty Meeting Parent Attendance Required	28	29	30	31

MAY THE GOD OF HOPE FILL YOU WITH ALL
JOY & PEACE
 AS YOU TRUST IN HIM, SO THAT YOU MAY
OVERFLOW WITH HOPE
 BY THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

Romans 15:13

August Birthdays

- 1 Scott Oetzman
- 2 Tracey McDonough, Matt Preston, Joseph Voigt
- 3 Emmalynn Herritz, Heather Mobley, Danny Ott, Lucas Weber
- 4 Alison Ratzburg, Arthur Schnurr, Denise Thayer
- 7 Eileen McDermott, Joseph Preuss, Ella Snyder,
- 8 Jon Fanta
- 9 Kyla Dougherty, Don Gross, Harrison Oetzman, Jeff Potter, Sally Raese
- 10 Carmen Erickson, Jed Fanta
- 11 Doug Durkee, Cayden Miller, Ron Pagel, Ellen Schroeder
- 12 Karter Olson, John Roloff Sr.
- 13 Betty Burfeind, Aaron Pagel, Bianca Schroeder
- 14 Lucas Mitchell
- 15 Helen Rick
- 16 Annette Gross, Emily Myers, Laura Schmidt, Keri Wafle
- 18 Jill Bender, Elijah Mobley
- 19 Paul Feldman, Colton Miller, Brynleigh Trankle
- 20 Matt Schmidt
- 21 Caitlin Wiese
- 22 Dale Nichols
- 23 Brett Mildbrand
- 24 Pam Burfeind, Ella Fry, Rebecca Gilbertson, Adam Hepp, Devon Pattridge
- 25 Tyler Laack, Shannon McDonough, Jamie Weise, Weston Ott
- 26 Brenenn Ott, Tanya Whitney
- 28 Gordon Schmidt, Lance Thayer
- 29 Urijah Gehri, Geraldine Olson
- 31 Richard Rick

If we missed your birthday, we're sorry. Please let us know and we will make the correction.

ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT

It's the dog days of summer and our thoughts turn to...Advent? It is not too early to think about our 3rd annual Advent by Candlelight program. This women's' ministry event helps keep our hearts and minds focused on our Savior during the busy weeks leading up to Christmas. We are looking for a few ladies who would be willing to help with planning. We have a workable outline and lots of ideas from the synod to make the planning easy. Please talk to Jan Fick if you would be willing to help keep this going for 2019.



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We're on the Web!

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