



M A Y 2012 LAMPLIGHTER

BE NOT AFRAID

Many of you know that I enjoy reading the Message, a contemporary translation of the scripture by Eugene Peterson. These words from Isaiah 43:

*Don't be afraid, I've redeemed you. I've called your name. You're mine.
 When you're in over your head, I'll be there with you.
 When you're in rough waters, you will not go down.
 When you're between a rock and a hard place,
 it won't be a dead end - because I am God,
 your personal God, The Holy One of Israel, your Savior."*

And many of you know that one of my favorite hymns is "Have no fear little flock". So with all of this as a lead in, what do you suppose the most frequent command in the Bible is? Would it be "be good"? Would it be "be holy". No. The most frequent command is "don't be afraid".

You and I know that there is so much fear around us and often within us. We so often operate our lives out of fear. When we are in fear then we want to manage and control those around us. Fear causes us to hurry and worry. And when we hurry and we worry, then we often miss the mark and we don't really listen to one another.

We are living in a day when there is so much fear and mistrust. One of the places that many people go when they are afraid, would be a family place. One of those places that many people have gone to in the past and continue to go to in these days is Psalm 23.

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

Another way of looking at this verse would be - Because of God, I have everything I need. That really goes against what we hear in the news or on the television. Do we really believe that the Lord is our shepherd?

He restores my soul.

The sheep in the Psalm are lead to the green pastures and beside the still waters. Be still and know that I am God is what Psalm 46 says to you and to me. The sheep is satisfied and the soul is restored.

Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil.

You and I know of some of these dark valleys. At the center of Psalm 23 are the words, "you are with me". Again the Message gives the translation "Your trusty shepherd's crook makes me feel secure".

You and I in these Easter days are invited into the confidence that comes from knowing God has made a dwelling place with each one of us. He has given us a way of life, a way of love, and a way to be home. May each of us find our "home" with Him in these Easter days.

Our Stewardship - (March, 2012)

Worship Attendance:

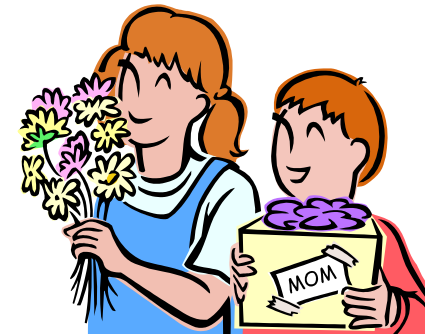
Sun., Mar. 4	160	Pastor's Devotional Line: Call 651-203-4195
Sun., Mar. 11	103	
Sun., Mar. 18	118	
Sun., Mar. 25	121	

Average attendance in March on Sunday morning = 126

Lent Service, Wed., Mar. 7	24 + 75 = 99
" " Wed., Mar. 14	14 + 47 = 61
" " Wed., Mar. 21	22 + 41 = 63
" " Wed., Mar. 28	26 + 46 = 72

Balance on hand as of 2/29/12	\$ + 3,947.97
Income to General Acct.	+ 12,309.49
Expense	- 17,527.78
Balance on hand as of 3/31/12	\$ - 1,270.32

The Youth & Education Committee will be hosting an **'Education Appreciation Sunday' on May 6th** by sponsoring a light breakfast at 8:30 a.m. in honor of those that have helped teach our children, then at the church service at 9 a.m. you will be honored by receiving a flower. Please mark your calendars to be here on Sun., May 6th.



Happy Mother's Day – May 13th

St. Paul Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes
April 11, 2012

Present: Council Members Tom Becker, Lori Collins, Connie Harmeyer, Gary Johnson, Cari Pfarr, Jim Reddemann, Heidi Sladek, Marsha O'Malley, Pastor Dave Aaker. Absent: Gary Novotny and Treasurer Marilyn Novotny.

Opening Prayer: Given by Pastor Dave

Secretary's Report: Motion by Gary J., seconded by Jim to approve minutes - Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Balance of \$4,542.16 with all bills current.

Committee Reports:

Stewardship: Working towards change in envelopes for giving. Recommend a quarterly mailing of envelopes. The cost would be about the same, or slightly lower, than present cost of envelopes. Will work towards envelope design and firm cost. Committee will change meeting time to the 4th Thursday of each month beginning May. Looking at possible videos that could be used during a church service.

Evangelism & Worship: Did not meet.

Property & Management: Continue to receive and discuss bids for new roof, as well as working with insurance agent on amount covered.

Education and Youth: Sunday School attendance has been very low (26-29). National Youth Gathering – 3 have decided not to go, but replacements have been found from Montgomery and Le Sueur. Pioneer Power plans continue with donations of coffee and pork. 11 students attending confirmation camp June 17-22. 2012 Confirmands will read Faith Statements on April 15th. Confirmation is Sunday, April 22nd. Education Appreciation is May 6th with rolls and coffee being served at 8:30 a.m. Vacation Bible School scheduled for July 22-26, with coordinators Vicki Mach and Emily Onken. Thank you to Jane Sapp, Vicki Mach, and Julie Zimmerman for their services on the committee.

Pastor's Report: Lent attendance was down this year. Baccalaureate service will be held Sunday, May 20th at 4 p.m. As of April 11, there are 18 members 90 years of age or older in our congregation.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Marsha, seconded by Connie to approve the agenda, motion carried.

Old Business:

Committee Organization/Council Member Assignments: Discussion on restructure of church committees. Motion made by Gary J, seconded by Jim that each committee adapt the guidelines as presented in the following letter (and send to current committee members)

Dear Committee Members:

We as a church council are grateful for all of the work that you have done as part of the committees of our church.

We as a council are seeking to restructure our committees and renew our common ministry to the mission that we have as a church. We have explored once again the Mission Statement of St. Paul Lutheran and are redefining the missions and reorganizing each of our committees.

As a council we are limited to two 3 year terms and we are asking that each of the committees abide by this same term limit. If you have served for more than 6 years we ask that you consider leaving the committee that you have been on and if you would like, make yourself available for a different committee, so that you can utilize your skills and gifts on another committee. This does not mean that you need to stop participating in the activities that are part of that committee's job description. After a year, if you desire you would be welcome to come back on that particular committee, just as church council people are eligible for re-election after they are off for one year. As a church council we are seeking to provide leadership to each of the committees and are looking to foster our communication between the committees and our council.

As we begin this vision, may we together commit ourselves to the work of God in this place. It is God's Work and it is Our Hands. Thank you for your hands that work for the mission and ministry of the Church.

Motion carried.

All Committee Meeting: All committees will be together on Wed., May 9th at 7:30 p.m.

Reviewing Mission of Committees: Pastor will meet with each of the council members in regards to their respective committee assignments, prior to the May 9th meeting. They will discuss the mission of each committee.

New Business: None

Next council meeting to be May 9th at 7:00 p.m. (prior to all committees meeting).

With no further business, meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Lori Collins

CITIZENS WITH THE SAINTS

Thank you for your ongoing support for all of us going to New Orleans this summer. We have continued to meet each month and the Gathering group have lead us in worship the 4th Sunday of each month. We are in the final preparation days and will be meeting this month with the Gathering group from Montgomery.

Here is the final list of those attending:

From St. Paul Lutheran:

Allison Anderson
Jenna Bosacker
Justin Bosacker
Tyler Chadderdon
Molly Ehlers
Taylor Laabs
Kalli McGrath
Rhea McGrath
Annica Reddemann
Keanna Schneider
Adrianna Tiede
Molly Tiede

Adults: **Chad Anderson**
Tim Chadderdon
Tracy Doheny
Faye Aaker
Pastor Aaker

From: St. Paul's Lutheran, German Lake

Chase Arndt

From: First Lutheran, Le Sueur

Sarah Bruihler

From: Shorewood,

Grant Oistad

From: Holy Trinity, New Prague

Mitchel Kajer

St. Paul Lutheran Le Center Salad & Hot Dish Luncheon

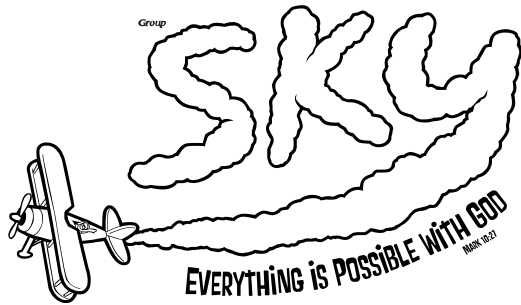


Thursday, May 3, 2012
11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

\$6.00 adults

\$1.00 children 10 & under

Take outs & in-town deliveries
357-2212



THE SKY IS THE LIMIT
COME FLY WITH US !!
 at Vacation Bible School

Join us at SKY VBS! The dates are as follows:

Place:: St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Dates: Sunday July 22nd – July 26th

Times: 5:30 pm – light supper

6:00 – 8:30 pm – VBS

Please register soon to ensure that we will have enough student material/craft supplies for everyone. There is a \$15.00 registration fee per child. We will have CD's of the music available for preordering at \$7.00 per CD. After June 30th, the cost of the CD' s will be \$10.00 per CD.

Registration will be on Sunday May 6th & Sunday May 13th after church service in the dining hall. Students eligible for enrollment include children who were 3 years old by September 1st of 2011 through 5th grade.

Students in 6th grade and older are encouraged to sign up as helpers. We will also need many adult volunteers.

Please return bottom portion with your registration fee on May 6st or May 13th or to the church office

For more information contact:

Vicki Mach 357-4563 Emily Onken 357 - 6702

Church Office 357-2212

Child's name: _____ Child's age: _____ Grade in Fall _____

Child's name: _____ Child's age: _____ Grade in Fall _____

Child's name: _____ Child's age: _____ Grade in Fall _____

Child's name: _____ Child's age: _____ Grade in Fall _____

Name of parent(s): _____

Street address: _____

Home telephone: (____) _____ Cell numbers: _____

e-mail address: _____

Allergies or other medical conditions: _____

Emergency contact if parents cannot be reached:

Name _____ Phone: _____

Name _____ Phone: _____

_____ Yes, I would like to volunteer _____ # of CD's at \$7.00 each

As a courtesy, please let us know if your child(ren) WILL NOT be attending VBS.

This way we will not be contacting you to find out if they are attending. Thanks for your help.

Let us pray for each other . . .

We pray for those in our church members & *non-members that have been sick, hospitalized, having surgeries, or are now home recovering. **Prayer Concerns** – remember the following: Bev Bartelt *Roxie Roemhildt, Lavonne Jameson, Melvin Schley.

Our Christian Sympathy & Prayers to:

The family of *Marvin & Donna Passon Their funeral was held here on Sat., April 14th.

Receiving the Sacrament of Holy Baptism:

On Sun., April 22 at the 9:00 a.m. church service, **Brennon Mitchell Holicky**, son of Jessey & Vanessa (Blaschko) Holicky. He was born on Feb. 29, 2012 in Mankato.

Church Website:

www.stpaul-lc.org

Pastor’s Devotional Line:

Call 651-203-4195

Memorials:

\$575 was given to the St. Paul Lutheran Sunday School Fund for a special project in loving memory of **Axel Boettcher**, infant son of Jeff & Karissa Boettcher and grandson of Roger & Marilyn Boettcher.

God bless his memory, this gift and those who gave it.

Worship Assistants

in **MAY 2012:**

Altar Guild: Kathy Erkel, Sue Knish, Shirley Germscheid

Bulletin Sponsors: (cost is \$20.00 in 2012)

May 6 – Peggy Weber
May 13 – Jim & Muriel Heidemann
May 20 – Pete, Marcia & Alex Sadowski
May 27 – Curt & Kay Kuethe

Counting Money in May:

Volunteers Needed

Coffee Hour:

May 27 – Nat’l Youth Gathering Group

Readers:

May 6 – Jane Sapp
May 13 – Dorothy Simonsen
May 27 – Nat’l Youth Gathering Group

Ushers:

May 6 – Charlie, Vicki, Kailey & Korey Mach
May 13 – Carolyn & Del Bettin
May 20 – Chad & Tammy Anderson Family
May 27 – Nat’l Youth Gathering Group

The Funny Side of Parenting!!!

One six-year-old daughter, Lisa, had a need to ask questions ... lots of questions. Finally, one day, her mom had had it.

“Have you ever heard that curiosity killed the cat?” Mom asked in exasperation. “No,” replied Lisa.

“Well, there was a cat, & he was very inquisitive. And one day, he looked into a big hole, fell in, & died!”

Lisa was intrigued: “What was in the hole?”

Prepare For Worship

MAY Readings

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Read the texts for Sunday before you come to church.

Readings for May 6 *Fifth Sunday of Easter*

Psalm 22:25-31

Lessons: Acts 8:26-40 and
1 John 4:7-21

Gospel: **John 15:1-8**

Readings for May 13 *Sixth Sunday of Easter*

Psalm 98

Lessons: Acts 10: 44-48 and
1 John 5:1-6

Gospel: **John 15:9-17**

Readings for May 20 *Seventh Sunday of*

Easter

Psalm 1

Lessons: Acts 1:15-17, 21-26 and
1 John 5:9-13

Gospel: **John 17:6-19**

Readings for May 27 *Day of Pentecost*

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

Lessons: Acts 2:1-21 and Romans 8:22-27

Gospel: **John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15**

MAY Birthdays



- 1 Orelle Bowler, Ernie Zuelch
- 2 Nick Blaschko
- 3 Rachel Hartung
- 4 Emily Klema, Becky Lewis
- 5 Mitch Overn
- 6 Shirley Sautter, Deb Christian
- 7 Bonnie Hartwig, Smith Boettcher, Gordon Ellanson Jr.
- 8 Lavonne Jameson, Kay Kuethe, Diane Zinke
Kandace Lukes, Kele Lukes
- 9 Bill Novosad, Diane Lloyd, Christa Phillips, Erik Helland, Pat Bauleke, Jeff Erkel
- 12 Guin Klema, Todd Krueger, Max Enderlein
- 14 Gail Blaschko, Tammy Schley, Travis Davies, Brian Peterson, Mikayla Waldriff
- 15 Jim Heidemann, Arlene O’Brien
- 16 Phil Simon, Dale Leighton
- 17 LeRoy Tiede, Anya Menk, Kayla Ellanson, Aaron Fredrickson
- 18 Carolyn Bettin, Deb Adams
- 19 Austin Neumann
- 20 Shawn Onken, Marilyn Baker
- 21 Brian Gieseke Sr., Dawn Tiede, Savy Smith, Kathy Mentjes
- 22 Evan Traxler, Paula Sylvester, Karly Sladek
- 23 Floyd Erkel, Stacy Sycks
- 24 Jane Blaschko
- 25 Sharon Sexe, Josh Hermel
- 26 Richie Carlson, Mahkenna Smisek
- 27 Jim Simonette, Grace Jensen, Aiden Novotny
- 28 Caroline Krueger, Brian Gieseke Jr., Maggie O’Malley, Mike Blaschko, Carson Lobatos
- 29 Ruth Schley
- 30 Dezi Bauleke, Nathan Hintz
- 31 Angie Bosacker



Everything is Possible with God...

Vacation Bible School will be held July 22-26. The theme this year is *‘The Sky Is The Limit Come Fly With Us!’* Please see the enclosed registration insert for you to fill in and bring to church on May 6th or 13th. Mark your calendar now so your children can come. **Volunteers will be needed, so plan ahead and offer your help.** For more information contact: Vicki Mach (357-4563) or Emily Onken (357-6702) or the church office (357-2212).

Bible Camp is being held June 17-22 for our students in grades 6 and 7th and those in 8th grade that haven’t gone. 11 students will be attending this year. They will be going to “Chrysalis Crew” at Green Lake Lutheran Ministries Bible Camp, Spicer, Minnesota. Pastor Dave will spend the week with them. The total cost of camp is \$375 per student. The students have paid some of the cost but most of it is paid for by the fund raisers they & their parents & others in the congregation have helped work at plus our ELCW will pay \$50 per student this year. They will be working at the Pioneer Power Swap Meet April 27 - 29 to help raise money for camp. Letters were sent to each student & parents explaining more details regarding Bible Camp.

ELCW Salad & Hot Dish Luncheon will be held on Thursday, May 3, 11:00 a.m. – 1 p.m.

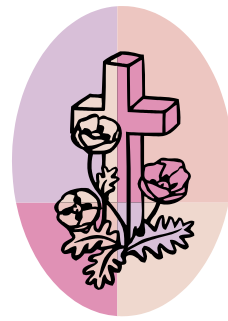
Thank you to those for helping support our women’s fundraising events. Bring your food early on Thursday, May 3rd. Your help will be appreciated. If you promised money and haven’t paid, please do soon. Thank you to all involved and for all the hard work you do. Tell your family and friends to come and enjoy a variety of delicious food!

Price: \$6 adults, children 10 & under \$1.

High School Senior Graduates Recognition Sunday at St. Paul Lutheran will be May 20 at our 9:00 a.m. Worship.

A gift from the Women of the Church will be given.

A Baccalaureate Service for all the seniors will be held at 4:00 p.m. at St. Mary’s Catholic Church.



Remember those who have served – Remember those who gave all.

(Memorial Day observed on Mon., May 28th)

Adult Bible Study will be held on Wed., May 9 at 9:30 a.m. in the conference room with Eileen Bohlen leading the study. All adults welcome and encouraged to come.

Country Neighbors are ‘Calling all Seniors age 62 & better! They wish to **invite you** to join them for a ‘Simply Super Supper’ in honor of you! This free event not only includes great food, there will be great fellowship & door prizes! Please join them on Tues., May 8th at 5 p.m. at Ecumen-Country Neighbors, 175 E. Derrynane St., Le Center. Questions or more information, call 357-4104. They hope to see you there!

Hospice Volunteer Training on May 7, 9 and 10, 9 a.m.- 4 p.m. at Mayo Clinic Health System Hospice Office, Madison East Center, 1400 Madison Ave., Mankato. If you are looking for a rewarding volunteer experience, contact Kim Rotchadl, Hospice volunteer coordinator at: 507-385-2618 or 800-327-3721, ext. 6364 (toll free).

Understanding Grief – Mayo Clinic Health System Hospice will sponsor this program on Thurs., May 17, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. at the Le Sueur Public Library, 118 E. Ferry St., Le Sueur. No charge, but pre-registration is required. To register or for more information, call Jeanne Atkinson at 507-385-2989 or 800-327-3721, ext. 2989.

‘Metro Mirth’ – taken from Metro Lutheran

These jokes never seem to get old and these are some printed ponderings about *“how to recognize a Lutheran”!!!*

Lutherans believe in confessing their sins – and occasionally assisting their neighbors in the same process.

Lutherans believe confirmation instruction is essential for young people – but that too much Christian education can endanger an adult Lutheran’s health.

Lutherans believe their pastors should preach captivating sermons – but are generally unwilling to mention it when they do.

Lutherans are extremely proud of their many well-recognized college & university choirs – but secretly wish they wouldn’t sing so much stuff in foreign languages.

Ask a Lutheran “How do you spell relief?, and you are likely to hear “LWR.” (For our United Methodist readers, that stands for “Lutheran World Relief.”)

Lutherans believe tithing is a good idea – especially for people who make more money than they do.

Lutherans believe in bringing God the best possible musical offering at worship – but generally believe that their music ministers should not be overpaid.

