



St. Paul's EPISTLE

October 2017 edition

WHY?

By Pastor Baur

Imagine over three feet of rain coming down and chasing people onto their roofs to keep from drowning. Watch the force of hurricanes that were not only destructive, but very deadly. Follow the storms that were not confined to a few neighborhoods, but to entire states. One tragedy after the next, only to be followed by another.

Trust in the LORD
with all your heart
and lean not
on your own
understanding;

- Proverbs 3:5

As I heard the reports of one natural disaster after the next, I began to wonder if the Job of the Bible had somehow moved down to the southern regions of the United States. In many ways, there were some similarity to the reports that came to Job as he heard about the loss of family, loss of possessions. His world was suddenly turned on end. It is as if Job was reliving the same tragedies that we were watching as survivors shared their experiences on TV. We did more than read about it, we saw it.

No doubt you have read through this book of the Old Testament and can remember the advice his wife gave him. Then there were the three well meaning, but mistaken friends, that seemed to have an answer for everything. I am sure down south there are similar words being shared by well-meaning helpers and rescuers. Yet, as we read through the last chapters of the book of Job, we look for the answer as to why would the Lord allow this to affect the life of one of his own. And then in the last chapters, he answers with silence. As strange as it may seem, God never gives Job the reason why this all took place. Instead his answer is summed up in the words, "Trust me."

That is a reminder that we need to hear often in the midst of our storms. That is what we are moved to think about as others face the floods and the hurricanes. The Lord doesn't owe us or anyone else an explanation, but he offers this encouragement, he says, "Trust me." Those are simple words, those are uplifting words, they are good words for Job, but also the Job within us.



God's House.
Your Home.

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Sunday worship
at 9:00am
www.stpaulswr.org

Pies



Pies



Mark Your
Calendars!
Willing Workers
Craft & Bake Sale
Nov. 4-5

The Willing Worker Craft and Bake Sale is fast approaching, November 4-5, and that means we need HELP!

- Help by donating apples by September 25th for pies.
- Help by peeling apples on September 28th and October 5th at 1:00 p.m. We can use men and women of all ages to help peel.
- Help by pre-ordering pies in the office.

The prices are the same as last year, \$11.00 for double and crumb crust apple pies. There will be pumpkin pies available at the sale for the same price. The proceeds from the sale this year will be used to help with the remodeling of our parsonage next door. Watch the weekly bulletin for more updates on the sale.

Parsonage Update

Our parsonage remodel is nearing completion. Besides replacing the flooring and cabinets in the kitchen, we have



purchased a new microwave and dishwasher. The range was purchased just after the Douglases moved, and the refrigerator is still in good shape. Mike & Judy Anderson donated a washing machine and dryer, so we have a full set of appliances ready for the next pastor and his family

The vinyl plank flooring has been extended into the dining room, and the carpet in the living room (which is over 20 years old) is being replaced. We also got new carpet on the basement stairs. The bathroom off the laundry room and the basement bathroom have been updated. Plus some areas received new paint and light fixtures.

We've also decided that the main first floor bathroom needs an entire overhaul. Thanks to the Willing Workers generously donating the proceeds from their apple pies and their Craft & Bake Sale, we will be able to do this project and make some needed repairs to the cement in the garage area. Thank you to everyone who has helped with this project.



Wisconsin River Valley Fall Rally

October 7, 2017

9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

9:00 a.m. Registration (\$3) and Fellowship
9:45 a.m. Opening Devotion

The Sun Still Rises

But for you who revere my name,
the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its wings.
Malachi 4:2a

Presentations

Mr. Rick Grundman, Japan
Pastor Jim Roecker, UW-Stevens Point Campus Ministry

Hosted by Grace, Ringle and Redeemer, Weston
at

Northland Lutheran High School
2107 Tower Road
Kronenwetter, WI 54455

Childcare available.
Please register names and ages
with Ashley Franzo at 715 -574 - 1562



From the Principal

By Mr. Jon Engelbrecht

It has been a weird month since the last Epistle. As many of you know, the school year began a little later than planned this year because of a mold issue. We found the problem in some of our classrooms which were not used as much this summer. So, we took the time to clean each of them according to the directions given to us by NorthStar Environmental Testing out of Mosinee. We thought we had everything cleaned, but we were still struggling in a couple of classrooms. We cleaned the rooms a third time and replaced carpets in two of the classrooms. We were then given a clean bill of health from NorthStar, so we could open our school doors for the new year.

We have been blessed with starting the school year with 111 students in grades 3K-8. The breakdown in the classrooms is as follows: 3K/4K – 20 students, Kindergarten – 16 students, 1st/2nd – 18 students, 3rd/4th – 20 students, 5th/6th – 25 students, and 7th/8th – 12 students. The Lord has truly been good to us by raising the enrollment by eight students from the end of the 2016-2017 school year.

This year the school will embark on formally writing its curriculum. We have started the process by putting together a curriculum team. The curriculum team will consist of a mixture of teachers, parents, and congregation members. The responsibility of this team is to formulate the educational philosophy for the school. In general terms, this team will define what we would like a student to be when he/she graduates from St. Paul's. The faculty will then take this philosophy and apply to individual classes as we develop our curriculum to match. In the end, we will improve the level of learning for each student by matching our philosophy to what is being taught in the classroom. The first subject we will tackle this school year will be Social Studies.

Busy Days at Little Lambs



If you like little children, we would love to talk to you about working at Little Lambs. Every day you get to talk about and show the love of Jesus to his precious lambs. If this sounds like your kind of job, please contact Mrs. Hannah Mueller at 715-421-3634 ext. 15 or liitlelambs@stpaulswr.org

Classroom Highlights

Kindergarten News – by Mrs. Trisha Engelbrecht

On your mark, get set, GO! We may have been off to a slow start, but thanks to some caring, hard-working, mold-removing members, we are indeed off! Our class has 16 eager learners this year who are getting along so well; it's hard to believe that some of them just met. Our kindergarten team is just beginning so many endeavors; we are:

1. learning the Pledge of Allegiance in sign language.
2. figuring out how a calendar works.
3. memorizing our first Bible verses.
4. taking notes during Religion lessons.
5. remembering our first sight words.
6. controlling our handwriting.
7. mastering our vibrations.
8. outsmarting the computer.
9. building muscles.
10. composing books. (to name a few)

Kindergarten is an amazing year of growth. Just wait for the big finish!



Preschool - by Mrs. Hannah Mueller

We are off to a great start in 3K-4K! We have 20 students this year, and we are going to be busy! So far we've been focusing on our daily routine and getting to know one another. We've also started introducing a couple letters and some basic writing skills. 4K students will be assessed within the first couple weeks of school on their knowledge of letters (large and small), numbers, counting skills, shapes, and colors. Our kids have been enjoying the extra space and equipment in our expanded playground! We're also delighted to see that our interactive projector is getting installed. An interactive projector is similar to a SmartBoard but the technology is in the projector and not the board. This will provide us with so many opportunities to enhance learning in our classroom! We've also posted our first day of school pictures on the St. Paul's Lutheran School and Little Lambs Child Development Center's Facebook page. If you haven't checked them out, go look! We have cuteness overload in our classroom this year!

1st-2nd Grade News – by Mrs. Karen Obsuzt

I first would like to thank everyone that helped get the school cleaned up and ready to start “mold” free. Many people put in long hours and worked just to help our students. We really do appreciate you and all that you have done and do for our school and students. School is now in full force.

We are in the swing of things in 1st and 2nd grade. We just sang in church on Sunday. The whole school was asked to sing, and the students did a wonderful job. It is always a blessing when we can glorify the Lord in song. We had our first Spelling Test. Second grade has started Shurley English, and they are learning about classifying sentences. They are also learning about journal writing and are really enjoying the it. In Social Studies, we are learning about natural resources. We are learning about conservation and not being wasteful. I look forward to watching the students continue to grow in the Lord. I know it will be a fantastic year.

Classroom Highlights



5th-6th Grade News – by Mr. John Quint

Our school year is off and running. Twenty-five (yes, you read right, 25) young people have taken up residence in the 5th and 6th grade this year. We welcome two new 6th graders to our school, Cameo Christensen and Sarah Hoyt.

This year's class schedule includes the usual subjects: Math, Science, English, Spelling, Reading, Physical Education, Music and Art. We also will focus on both Old and New Testament Bible lessons in the WELS ChristLight series. In Regional Studies, we will take a look at US history and geography. Each state, six U.S. territories, and Washington, D.C., get their own day. Wisconsin, of course, gets two days.

Professor Von Drake and his Mystery Monday series is also alive and well in our classroom again this year. We've already solved the mystery of the mini bowling ball and will be examining the weird large green barrel this week.

We will be holding our second annual shoe collection drive for "Soles for Jesus" this fall. More info on this project will be in next month's church newsletter as well as in upcoming bulletins.

And finally, and most importantly, we remain focused on God and his plan of salvation. It remains central to all that we do this year and every year. May God richly bless our students, faculty, staff, and congregation!

7th-8th Grade News – by Mr. Randy Pahl

With September 5th, came the opening of a new school year and there were plenty of smiling faces up and down our hallways. But enough about the parents, we even had a few of our students happy to be back! And speaking of returning, we are happy to report that all of our 7th grade students from last year have returned for their 8th grade year here at St. Paul's with the exception of Trayce Hacker whose family moved to Manitowoc, WI.

They are as follows: Olivia Bredda, Riley Buck, Mia Tristan and Cora Zwicke. Also new to our classroom, but not to our school, are 7th graders: Ian Antoniewicz, Bree Kaehn, Nick Leberg, Layla Matthews, Brianna Obsuszt, and Brandon VanStedum. We are thankful and happy to announce that we have added two new students in grade 7: Annaleigh Hillemeier and Abigail Hoyt. We are truly blessed to have all of these fine young students who we are certain will let their lights shine as examples for the entire student body!

The volleyball season is off to a roaring start as we have already participated in five matches as well as the annual tournament which was held at Northland Lutheran High School. A huge thank you to all those who have helped out to make our season a tremendous success! From the coaches (Mr. and Mrs. Mueller) and players to the parents and volunteers (including Mr. Todd Ferkey who helped out as our referee), we couldn't have done it without you.

So, as you can see, we are off to a busy start to what we hope will be a successful year. We continue to ask for your support and God's richest blessings as we work together to raise the next generation of servants in the kingdom of our awesome God!

Mendelssohn's Reformation Symphony



Help someone in your church family with fall lawn care. Visit lotsahelpinghands.com and search for our community.



Lotsa Helping Hands

The Wisconsin Philharmonic is offering WELS members discounted tickets for a special performance, Mendelssohn's Reformation Symphony, on Tuesday, October 10 at 7:30 p.m. In recognition of the 500th anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation, Pastor Aaron Christie, Trinity Lutheran Church (WELS), Waukesha, and Maestro Alexander Platt of the Philharmonic will provide insight to the history of the music and Mendelssohn's Lutheran faith in a special pre-concert conversation beginning at 6:30 p.m. The concert will be held at the Sharon Lynne Wilson Center for the Arts in Brookfield, WI. Tickets are \$25 each. Seating is limited, so make sure to reserve your tickets now!

Luther's Lasting Impact

A six-week online Bible study on "Luther's Lasting Impact" will begin on October 4. Prof. Joel Otto of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary will lead the study twice each Wednesday at 6:00 and 8:00 p.m. The Reformation impacted how people learn, confess, and live their faith down to this day. Sessions will focus on the certainty of salvation, the Bible in the language of the people, the Small Catechism and Lutheran education, the singing church, the elevation of the ordinary life, and the Lutheran pastor. To learn more or join the study, go to wels.net/interactivefaith.

Western Wisconsin District Reformation Celebration



Sunday, October 29
Dane County Coliseum
Madison, WI

Festival Worship: 4:00
Special Hymn Sing: 6:00
Come early to visit displays and vendor booths.



LUTHERAN NIGHT
500 YEARS IN THE MAKING

SATURDAY, OCT. 21
6PM VS. ROCKFORD

TICKETS
JUST \$20
INCLUDES BOBBLEHEAD

Join the Milwaukee Admirals & fellow Lutherans for a fun night of hockey! PLUS, each Lutheran Night ticket comes with an exclusive Martin Luther Bobblehead. Contact fellow WELS Member John Bitter at 414-227-0829 or jbitter@milwaukeeadmirals.com to secure your tickets.

Special Gifts and Memorials

Through September 17, 2017

Current

- In honor of their 70th wedding anniversary given by Bob & Char Jacob
- In memory of Susie Dempze's & Cindy Hiles' sister-in-law, Shelley Eichhorn; Lisa Crump's sister, Arthamae Sadlemyer; and Darlene Fanning given by Barb Manz
- In memory of Leona Ironside given by Jill Kane

Cheerful Givers

- In honor of their 70th wedding anniversary given by Bob & Char Jacob
- In memory of Darlene Fanning given by Jack & Pat Fluno and Ron & Georgene Provost
- In memory of Leona Ironside given by Jim & Jeanne Jackson and Jack & Pat Fluno
- In memory of Arthamae Sadlemyer given by Roger & Lisa Crump

Mortgage

- In memory of Lisa Crump's sister, Arthamae Sadlemyer, given by Elaine Martin
- In memory of Erma Rice & Darlene Fanning given by Carol Newsom

Handbell Choir

- In memory of Joyce Camacho's sister, Judy Flint, given by Florence Camacho and Deb Durst

St. Paul's Student Assistance Fund

- In honor of their 70th wedding anniversary given by Bob & Char Jacob
- In memory of John Kramer and Darlene Fanning given by Kent, Kristie & Emma Schroeder

Endowment Fund

- In honor of their 70th wedding anniversary given by Bob & Char Jacob



Called home to heaven:
Leona Ironside

In the Mailbox

Thank you for sponsoring the September 14th meal at The Neighborhood Table. You were a great group of workers. Everyone was enthusiastic and showed true kindness to our guests. It is obvious that you believe in our mission to reduce hunger in our community and improve the quality of life for our neighbors in need. In addition to the 213 meals you served, we thank you for resupplying our dessert freezer with all your delicious homemade cookies and bars.

Our guests, the board, and all the volunteers for The Neighborhood Table appreciate your continued support. Thank you again for sponsoring the meal on September 14th.

Mary and Brenda
Meal Coordinators

Besides serving the meal and making cookies & bars, our members gave \$225 to help with the cost of running this ministry.



Counting Our Blessings

- We have a God we can trust even in hard times.
- Our staff and volunteers who worked on the mold issue.
- Eight more school students this year than last year.
- We collected \$793 for Hurricane Relief.
- Our Sunday School Staff
- Our members serving at SWEPS food pantry
- Our new interactive projector in 3K-4K



St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church
311 14th Ave S
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495-2402

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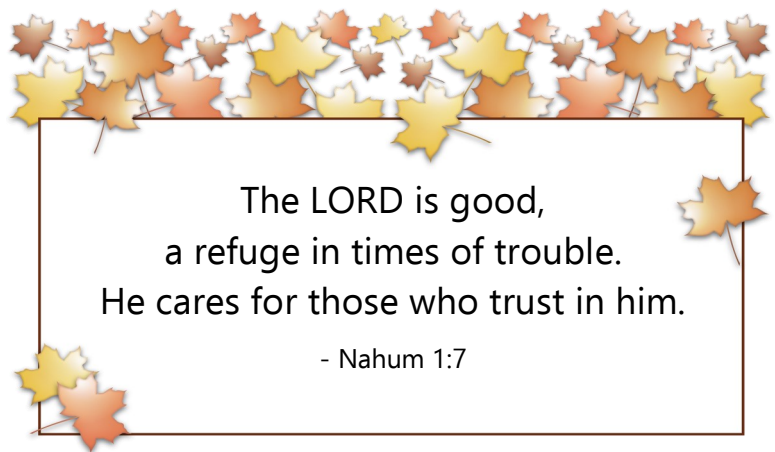
Phone: 715-421-3634
E-mail: churchoffice@stpaulswr.org
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Upcoming Events

Pie Making Sessions
Sept. 28 & Oct. 5 - 1:00 p.m.

Mission Rally at NLHS
Oct. 7 - 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Reformation 500
Celebration in Madison
Oct. 29 - 4:00 p.m.



The LORD is good,
a refuge in times of trouble.
He cares for those who trust in him.

- Nahum 1:7

Pastor Martin Baur · 715-421-1424