

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

**from
everlasting
to everlasting,
you are God**

- Psalm 90:2b (NIV)



A CELEBRATION OF 40 YEARS OF MINISTRY
FOR MR. RANDY PAHL

August 23, 2020

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

If you are a visitor to our church, we extend you a warm welcome. For worshippers joining us in person, we are happy you are here. If you have any questions, just ask an usher or other volunteer.

We would love to see just what kind of impact our worship services are making. Please fill out our online Connect Card to let us know where you're worshipping from and how we might continue to serve you. You can find a link at www.stpaulswr.org/watch. You can also contact us via email or phone (churchoffice@stpaulswr.org or 715-421-3634) with any questions or prayer requests.

SPECIAL GUIDELINES DURING THE PANDEMIC

- † **Please practice social distancing whenever possible.** Keep close personal interactions to a minimum, especially when inside the building. There is tape on the floor of the Welcome Center to help assist you in practicing social distancing. Please feel free to worship from the Welcome Center, if you feel uncomfortable with the number of people in the sanctuary. Please refrain from shaking hands or hugging.
- † **Please practice good hygiene.** Masks, hand sanitizer, disinfectant wipes, and kleenex are available in the Welcome Center. Our restrooms are located along the hallway on the west side of the worship space.
- † **Large print service folders, hearing devices, and printouts of the hymns** are available on the Information Booth in the Welcome Center, if you need them.
- † **Offering plates and friendship registers will not be distributed.** Your offering and Connect Card can be placed in the slots on the top of the Information Booth in the Welcome Center. If you prefer, you can give electronically or fill out the online Connect Card. Visit our website www.stpaulswr.org.
- † **The children's quiet activity bags have been removed.** However, children's bulletins can be picked up at the Information Booth in the Welcome Center. If your children become fussy, you can quiet them in the Welcome Center. The Children's Message will still take place. However, the children will not be invited forward. Please keep them with you in your pew.

† **Please wait for the ushers to dismiss you.** Following post-service announcements, pastor(s) will leave down the side aisles and head outside to greet you. Ushers will dismiss worshipers from the back moving forward; and down the center aisle, as well as the side aisles. This is to minimize personal contact. Please take this service folder with you and dispose of it properly.

SERVICE NOTES FOR THIS SUNDAY



God blesses his church with called workers. While we are all called to live a life of service in our own unique vocations, God calls some into the public ministry so that his Word would be proclaimed from one generation to the next. Randy Pahl has proclaimed the Word to the next generation for 40 years; it is right to thank God today and always for such faithful and prolonged service. Thank you, Lord, for teachers, staff ministers, and pastors!

The liturgical color¹ for this Sunday is green, which signifies the growth in faith and knowledge that comes through the work of teachers, pastors, and staff ministers.

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Opening Dialogue from *Responsive Opening Dialogues for Worship*, WELS Arizona-California District Worship Committee, November 2015. The Scripture translation used in this dialogue is the HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION ®. (with occasional modification) NIV84®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

“Praise to the Lord, The Almighty” Text: public domain.

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¹ The liturgical color is found on the pastor's stole and the piece of cloth hanging from the pulpit.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Service of the Word draws the believer's attention to the proclamation of the Gospel in the Word of God.

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty | CW 255
Verse 1-All; 2- Men; 3-Women; 4-Song Leaders; 5-All

Please stand.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Minister (M): In the name of the Father and of the Son
(+) and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation (C): Amen.

Mr. Pahl's traveling choir at East Fork would use this as the opening song/hymn at various churches.

OPENING DIALOGUE

M: Great are the works of the Lord;

C: They are pondered by all who delight in them.

M: Glorious and majestic are his deeds,

C: And his righteousness endures forever.

M: He has caused his wonders to be remembered;

C: The Lord is gracious and compassionate.

M: The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.

C: To him belongs eternal praise.

Psalm 111:2-4,10

M: We give thanks to you, O God, for your name is near.

C: We will tell of your wonderful deeds.

Psalm 75:1

M: We will not hide them from our children;

**C: We will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord,
his power, and the wonders he has done.**

Psalm 78:4

PRAYER AND PRAISE

| CW 234 (1)

**C: ♪ Praise to the Lord, the Almighty,
the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him,
for he is your health and salvation!
Let all who hear Now to his temple draw near,
Joining in glad adoration! ♪**

Our students here at St. Paul's sang a version of this hymn that had an awesome introduction Mr. Pahl especially enjoyed.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, we thank you for the gift of called workers to feed your flock. Today, we especially thank you for the gift of Randy Pahl, who has served to your glory for 40 years. Help him and all called workers to stand firm in the midst of the trials and stresses of this world so that, through their service, many more might come to know you who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Be seated

The Word

FIRST LESSON

Proverbs 9:9-12

Wisdom builds the foundation of the righteous.

After the reading, the announcement is made:

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

HYMN - *The First Song of Isaiah*

Choir: Surely, it is God who saves me;
I will trust in him and not be afraid.
For the Lord is my stronghold
and my sure defense,
And he will be my Savior.

Choir: Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing
From the springs of salvation.
And on that day you shall say,
Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his name.

Again, the East Fork traveling choir sang this. They would sing it a cappella in the bus as Mr. Pahl drove them to the various churches. We also sang it here at St. Paul's to open our Children's Christmas Service along with our St. Paul's church choir and Good Shepherd's choir as well.

All:



Sure-ly, it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and not be a - fraid. For the



Lord is my strong-hold and my sure de-fense, and he will be my Sav - ior.

Choir: Make his deeds known among the peoples;
See that they remember that his name is exalted.
Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things,
And this is known in all the world.

All: **♪ Surely, it is God who saves me;
I will trust in him and not be afraid.
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense,
And he will be my Savior. ♪**

Choir: Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion,
Ring out your joy,
For the great one in the midst of you
Is the Holy One of Israel.

All: **♪ Surely, it is God who saves me;
I will trust in him and not be afraid.
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense,
And he will be my Savior. ♪**

All: **♪ Surely, it is God who saves me;
I will trust in him and not be afraid.
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense,
And he will be my Savior. ♪**

SECOND LESSON

Hebrews 12:1-3

We are wise to follow the example of the great cloud of witnesses that have gone before us.

After the reading, the announcement is made:

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

Please stand.

GOSPEL

Matthew 7:24-29

The faithful servant helps countless souls build on the solid rock.

After the reading, the announcement is made:

M: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C: **Praise be to you, O Christ!**

Be seated

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

For the time being, please keep children with you in the pews for the Children's Message.

HYMN

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty | CW 234 (2-5)

Verse 2-Men; 3-Song Leaders; 4-Women; 5-All

SERMON - FROM EVERLASTING TO EVERLASTING, YOU ARE GOD

Lord, you have been our dwelling place
throughout all generations.
Before the mountains were born
or you brought forth the whole world,
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.
May the favor of the Lord our God rest on us;
establish the work of our hands for us—
yes, establish the work of our hands.

- Psalm 90:1,2,17 (NIV)

Please stand.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Be seated

THANK OFFERING

St. Paul's members offer their first and their best to their Savior in order to support the sharing of the Gospel through our church and our worldwide church body, the WELS. Our guests do not need to feel obligated to participate.

If the gospel message has moved you to give and you would like an electronic option, you can scan this QR code with your mobile phone. It will connect you with our website's giving page.



MUSICAL OFFERING

*We Give Thee but Thine Own | CW 485
Verse 1-All; 2-All*

Please stand.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Most merciful God, our heavenly Father, we praise you for all your gracious gifts to us. We give you thanks for establishing and maintaining the holy ministry to nourish the congregation of believers with your precious Word.

C: **You have done great things for us, and we are glad.**

Mr. Pahl's home congregation in Brillion always sang this song after the offering plates were brought forward.

M: Today we lift our hearts in gratitude and rejoicing for the goodness you have bestowed on your servant, Randy Pahl, whom you called to serve as a teacher, and now serves as a staff minister in our midst. You have mercifully granted him grace to serve in the office of the public ministry for 40 years and have showered him with a multitude of blessings throughout those years.

C: Best of all, you have enabled him to teach your saving truth among us and others.

M: You have also given him strength to bear his burden of labor and hardships and supported him when crosses weighed heavily.

C: For this abounding love and favor toward your servant, we thank and praise you.

M: In your goodness grant him continued guidance and sustain him with your tender care. Give him joy in serving you and your people, and fill his heart with your peace.

Special Prayers and Intercessions

M: Abide with all who confess your holy name, keeping us steadfast in faith and sound doctrine.

C: Help each of us serve you with gladness and bring us and all your saints at last into eternal joy. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Be seated.

A great reminder of how teachers and parents work together – it takes a “village” to raise a child!

HYMN

Oh, Blest the House, Whate'er Befall | CW 506 (1, 3-5)

Verse 1-Men; 3-Women; 4-Song Leaders; 5-All

Please stand.

CLOSING PRAYER

M: Let us pray.

O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us safely to this new day. Defend us with your mighty power, and grant that this day we neither fall into sin nor run into any kind of danger; and in all we do, direct us to what is right in your sight, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

M: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

Be seated.

*A great way to end a
service ... with
thanksgiving and praise!*

CLOSING HYMN

*We Praise You, O God, Our Redeemer | CW 609 (2-3)
Verse 2-All; 3-All*



A BRIEF BIOGRAPHY OF RANDY PAHL



Randy was born a Packer fan in Green Bay, Wisconsin, to Roger and Margaret Pahl. He and his sister, Deborah, grew up in the church, attending Trinity Lutheran Elementary School in Brillion and high school at Manitowoc Lutheran High. Randy went on to school at Wisconsin Lutheran College in Milwaukee where he received an Associate of Arts degree in 1978 and then Dr. Martin Lutheran College in New Ulm, Minnesota, where he attained a bachelor's degree in elementary education in 1981.

In 1980, Randy married Judith (Wangerin) and together they have three children: Jason, Eric, and Karen. His love for family remains today as he now enjoys his time as grandfather of six grandchildren.

Randy first taught grades five and six at First German Lutheran School in Manitowoc in 1980 and then moved to East Fork, Arizona to teach grades nine through twelve at East Fork Lutheran High. While in East Fork, Randy was head of the math department and student council and served as the varsity boys' basketball coach and the girls' varsity softball coach. He also was choir director.

In 1990, Randy made the long trek north across the United States to serve at St. Paul's Lutheran in Wisconsin Rapids. During his tenure he has taught grades three through eight, served as principal from 1999 to 2006, and served as athletic director and coach. In 2019, Randy left his teaching position behind to continue as staff minister at St. Paul's, where he continues his service to the Lord today.

Randy has also been active serving in the community as a voice for sporting events on WFHR radio. He enjoys viewing all sports and is an avid Wisconsin fan.

THANK YOU
for serving
the Lord

TAKE HOME QUESTIONS

1. The Proverbs are very big on wisdom. In fact, they are deemed "wisdom literature" by many Old Testament scholars. Read 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 to see what makes someone truly wise. In what ways does 1 Corinthians 1 echo the words of Proverbs 9?
2. Obviously, we can lose heart often in our lives. How do the words of Hebrews 12:1-3 help us not lose heart? Perhaps you can look at Hebrews 11 if you need some more context.
3. What are three "teachings" in this world that seem to be a solid bedrock, but end up being nothing more than shifting sand? Example: "Everyone deserves to be happy."
4. What attributes of God come out in today's sermon text? Example: "From everlasting to everlasting" = God is eternal.

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY RESUMES NEXT WEEK

August 30 | 9:15 AM

“Isaiah – The LORD saves” – Our next venture for Sunday morning Bible class will take us through the work of the prophet Isaiah. While we won’t get to read every verse of the 66 chapters, our hope is to give you a better understanding of the Lord’s work in that book and throughout the rest of the Bible. One change: We will still meet in person. However, **we will also begin sharing Sunday Bible class through Google Meet** – you can join from home on your laptop, computer, smartphone, or even your landline phone! Information for how to join will be shared through the Sneak Peek each week and by contacting the church office. So keep your eyes open for that!

For our Isaiah class, here’s the outline we plan to follow:

- August 30 – Introduction and Overview (Chapters 1-6)
- September 6 – The Book of Immanuel (Chapters 7-12)
- September 13 – The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly (Chapters 13-33)
- September 20 – Highways and Hezekiah (Chapters 34-39)
- September 27 – The Servant (Chapters 40-55)
- October 4 – God Will Make All Things New (Chapters 56-66)

SUNDAY SCHOOL ON YOUTUBE

Sept. 13

Attention Parents! In light of current challenges related to classroom gathering, our church is introducing a new approach to Sunday school. Beginning Sunday, September 13, lessons taught by experienced WELS teachers will be available free via YouTube. The engaging and age-appropriate Lesson Videos will tie to printed Student Lessons that our church will provide to you at no cost, and printed Student Lessons will be mailed directly to your home. This new approach presents an easy yet meaningful way for you to encourage your child’s faith in Christ. To register, please contact Kent Schroeder at 715-421-4202 or knks@wctc.net.

WORSHIP WITH OUR SCHOOL

You are invited to worship with our school. The Opening Service at 9:00AM on this Monday, Aug. 24. Chapel services are on Wednesdays at 8:55AM. (Note the time change.)

LITTLE LAMB'S CHILD CARE - HELP NEEDED

A paid position is available for before and after school care this year starting August 26th, morning 6:30-8:30AM and afternoon 3:30-5:30PM. In an effort to keep our older and younger children separate after school we will need extra hands to lighten the load. You would be watching children that are 3-5 years old or 6 years and older. The work would entail supervising outdoor play, games, some homework help if needed. It would not be every day and could be flexible with your schedule. Even one or two days a week would be helpful (either morning or afternoon). If this sounds like something you could do please contact Carole Melso or Kellie Jensen. Thank you!

PICNIC TABLES NEEDED

Our school is planning to do some outdoor teaching and are in need of a few picnic tables. If you have a picnic table to lend to us for a short time, please let me know. We'll take donations also, but simply lending us a table will help us out considerably. We are planning to purchase some canopies for shade, but purchasing tables would get pricey and only have a somewhat temporary use. If you have a table we can use, please contact Mr. Melso at 715-421-3634 ext.1118 or principal@stpaulswr.org.

A PEOPLE CLOSE TO GOD

Sept. 9 | 6:30PM

Many of us have known about and believed in Christ for many years. Yet, the Apostle Paul tells us to keep studying (2 Timothy 3:14). You have another opportunity to continue in the things you have learned beginning Sept. 9. Pastor Plagenz will lead you through *People Close to God: A Bible Study Course in Christian Doctrine* on Wednesday evenings at 6:30PM. This 14-week Bible information course breaks down into three sections: Four Key Concepts, Faith-Builders, and Growing in Grace. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to come and be refreshed in the foundations of our faith. A complete schedule can be found in the monthly newsletter.

WOMEN'S STUDY POSTPONED

The Women's bible study planned to start up again at the beginning of September. However, they have decide to delay meeting together. For more info, please contact Jeanne Jackson.

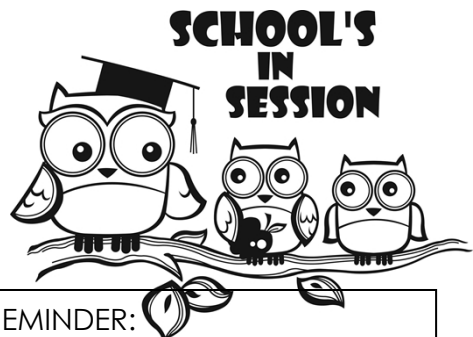
SUNDAY	8:00 AM	Worship Celebration of 40 Years of Ministry for Mr. Pahl
	10:30 AM	Worship Celebration of 40 Years of Ministry for Mr. Pahl
	12:00 PM	Anniversary Luncheon & Program
MONDAY	9:00 AM	Opening School Service
	11:00 AM	Worship for at-risk individuals
TUESDAY	6:45 AM	Men's Bible Study at From the Ground Up Coffee Shop
WEDNESDAY	8:55 AM	Chapel Service
THURSDAY	7:00 AM	Men's Small Group at From the Ground Up Coffee Shop
SUNDAY	8:00 AM	Worship
	9:15 AM	Bible Study in the cafeteria
	9:15 AM	Catechism Class
	10:30 AM	Worship

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Aug. 24 School Begins at St. Paul's
- Aug. 30 Sunday Study on Isaiah
- Sept. 7 Labor Day
- Sept. 9 A People Close to God Class
- Sept. 13 Virtual Sunday School

OFFERING REPORT

Last Week's Attendance: 125
 From July 1, 2020 to August 14, 2020
 Actual ministry income: \$92,944
 Actual cost of ministry: \$128,320
 Mortgage balance: \$1,367,141



REMINDER:
 Our school children use the south end of our parking lot during recess. On school days, please enter and park on the north end of the lot, closest to the entrance. Thank you.



www.stpaulswr.org

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