



St. Paul's EPISTLE

September 2020 edition

WHAT'S OUR PLAN? TO PLAN!

By Pastor Proeber

I know that sounds like nonsense, but that's what the pastoral staff and, recently, the Leadership Council have been starting to tackle. We want to begin the process of renewing our mission, clarifying our vision, and establishing objectives to help us accomplish the work God has given us. I believe these things are necessary tools to help our congregation move forward in a unified and focused direction.



Now, I know what some of you might be thinking: "Planning isn't the gospel! Planning won't get more souls into heaven! Why would we waste our time planning when we could just go out and share the Word with others?" To some degree, I agree with you. We don't want our plans to become the most important thing in our church. However, plans help us figure out what we're going to do. Plans help to take a lot of the fretting out of difficult decisions. Plans help us to answer the questions of those who are looking to get involved. Plans help us lay the foundation for the next generation of churchgoers. In short, plans (when viewed in the right light) help.

So, what can you expect? Well, we are looking to present some ideas for what we believe our core values to be—things we are passionate about and want to do well. We'll be referring to them as the four Pillars (or P's) of St. Paul's – Praise, Prepare, Proclaim, Participate. There is a worship series in the works for the month of October to focus us on these pillars. In conjunction with that worship series, there will be a Wednesday night Bible class in October to further discuss how we can use those pillars in the most helpful way.

What are we expecting from you? First, pray. The biggest thing in planning is that we must constantly remind ourselves that, sometimes, the Lord's plans are different than our plans. Prayer and spending increased time in his Word help us see those times more clearly. Second, keep an eye out for other information regarding this long-range plan.

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Reaching out with
the love of Jesus.

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Worship
Sunday at 8:00 & 10:30AM
Monday at 11:00AM

www.stpaulswr.org

WHAT'S OUR PLAN continued

We may ask you to complete some informational surveys, among other things, to help us better understand the direction in which you want to take the church and its ministries. Third, if you are passionate about planning and like to think “big picture” thoughts, please let me know! I'd love to have a core group to take in information and share thoughts and ideas with the rest of the congregation.

Planning can be a huge task. With a church our size, that is certainly the case. But with all of us working together to listen, plan, and act, the task becomes a little less daunting. And, best of all, we know our God is with us to bless the plans we entrust to his holy and gracious will. As David says in Psalm 37:5 – “Commit your way to the Lord. Trust in him, and he will act.” †

SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS WITH A TWIST

“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 are still meeting in person. However, to help keep you connected to more of God's Word during this prolonged time of change, **we will 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 or by contacting the church. So keep your eyes open for that! †

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)



Printed materials mailed to your home.
Watch lessons on YouTube.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AT HOME

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. This new approach presents an easy yet meaningful way for you to encourage your child's faith in Christ.

To see a preview of the Sunday, September 13 Lesson Video and Student Lesson, visit nph.net/ss-at-home. Printed Student Lessons for your child will be mailed directly to your home. To register, please contact Kent Schroeder at 715-421-4202 or knks@wctc.net. May God bless your child as we together continue to share His love. †

BIBLE BOOK GROUP
Study individual books for the bible.
Wednesdays at 6:30PM
In the Resource Center
Beginning Sept. 16



MEN'S BIBLE GROUPS
Meet at From the Ground uP Coffee Shop
Tuesday at 6:45-7:45AM
Thursday at 7:00-7:45AM

CONTINUE IN WHAT YOU HAVE LEARNED: FALL BIBLE INFORMATION CLASS

by Pastor Plagenz

As for you, continue in the things you have learned and about which you have become convinced. You know from whom you learned them and that from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is God breathed and is useful for teaching, for rebuking, for correcting, and for training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be complete, well equipped for every good work.

- 2 Timothy 3:14-17

The Apostle Paul wrote these words to Timothy, a missionary companion who had served alongside Paul for many years. He had accompanied Paul on many of his journeys all around the Mediterranean Sea. We learn a lot about Timothy in Paul's letters and in the Book of Acts, but one thing that's highlighted in these verses is Timothy's Bible background. Since he was a baby, Timothy had been taught the Scriptures and continued to learn and grow in his faith through his work with Paul. Yet after all that instruction, study, and experience Paul tells him to "continue in the things you have learned and about which you have become convinced." Paul encouraged Timothy to continue to grow in what he already knew and believed.

How great an encouragement for us today! I would bet that many of you have known about and believed in Christ for many years, if not your whole life. You have learned the truth of Scripture and

have studied them in many ways. Yet, Paul says keep studying! Continue to grow in what you have already learned!

With that in mind I want to let you know about another opportunity to continue in the things you have learned. Beginning September 9th we will go through *People Close to God: A Bible Study Course in Christian Doctrine* Wednesday evenings at 6:30. 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. Here is the schedule we will follow.

No matter how long you have been a Christian or how much you have studied the Bible, come and marvel at who God is, his demonstration of amazing love for us in Christ, and our lives living in this love! †



FOUR KEY CONCEPTS

Sept. 9th — Sin:
What keeps us from being close to God

Sept. 16th — Grace:
What brings us close to God

Sept. 23rd — Faith:
The gift of a personal connection close to God

Sept. 30th — Works:
How we live close to God

FAITH BUILDERS

Oct. 7th — Creation, Trinity:
The God we are close to

Oct. 14th — Scripture:
The means by which God brings us close to himself

Oct. 21st — Jesus' Person & Work:
The Savior who brought us close to God

Oct. 28th — Baptism:
God brings us close to himself through baptism

Nov. 4th — Lord's Supper:
God brings us close to himself through the Lord's Supper

GROWING IN GRACE

Nov. 11th — Church & Church Fellowship:
God keeps his church close to himself

Nov. 18th — Marriage & Family:
Living in the home as people close to God

Dec. 2nd — Worship & Prayer:
Worshiping as people close to God

Dec. 9th — Evangelism & Stewardship:
Speaking and giving as people close to God

Dec. 16th — Coping & Judgment Day:
God continues to draw us close to himself for now and for eternity

CONTINUING THE MISSION IN CHALLENGING TIMES

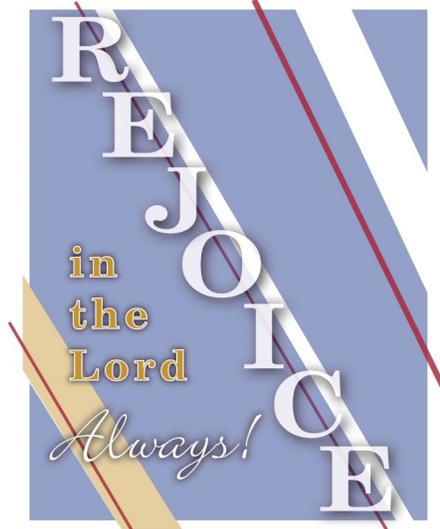
By Principal John Melso

"Rejoice in the Lord Always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"
- Philippians 4:4

OUR THEME

Our school theme for 2020-2021 is *Rejoice in the Lord Always* based on the above passage written by the Apostle Paul. If you read about Paul's life in Scripture, it includes quite a list of physical hardships he endured as a messenger of the Gospel. It includes floggings, beatings, stonings, shipwrecks, and times of thirst and starvation. Now while under house arrest he writes, "Rejoice in the Lord always." How in the world could Paul not only rejoice, but do it always? How in the world could he implore others to rejoice...always? Can we really rejoice while being confronted with the uncertainty and challenges of a pandemic plagued world?

Paul surely did feel the anxiousness and frustration we are facing. The key for Paul, and the heart of our school theme this year, is found in the words, "**in the Lord.**" Paul did not have a 24/7 smile on his face, and neither do we. Paul could only encourage us to rejoice always because the cause for rejoicing did not come from him. It came from the Lord and was always present. He was a redeemed child of God... always. God's love for him was the same everyday, whether in sickness or in health, in good times or bad, in sorrow or in laughter. His eternal salvation was a certainty because it depended **on the Lord.** That is why he and we can *Rejoice in the Lord, always.* It sounds so good, let's say it again, Rejoice!



OUR PLAN

The mission of St. Paul's Lutheran School is, as always, to assist parents, our congregation, and others in developing in each student a knowledge and love of their Savior, growth in His Word, and lifetime service to Him and His kingdom, both spiritually and academically. We feel strongly that it is in the best interest of our students and families to continue that mission in person. With that in mind, we have analyzed recommendations from the CDC, and in particular, our local Wood County Health Department to make adjustments to maintain an environment as safe as possible and as familiar as possible as we plan to return to full-time, in-person learning on August 24th. We will focus on social distancing, limiting contact between groups of students, and increased sanitation to mitigate the spread of COVID 19.

We will educate God's children in the face of worldly challenges, praying and trusting that God is with us and guides our steps.

OUR WORSHIP

We ask that you pray with us and worship with us. Our school year will begin with an Opening Service at 9AM on Monday, August 24. Our first chapel service will be on Wednesday, August 26 at 8:55AM. (Note that our chapel services this year will be at **8:55AM** instead of 9:00AM.) All are invited to attend both services.

OUR NEED

We are planning to do some outdoor teaching and are in need of a few picnic tables. If you have a picnic table to lend us for a short time, please let Mr. Melso know. We'll take donations also, but simply lending us a table will help us out considerably. We have purchased some canopies for shade, but purchasing tables would get pricey and only have a somewhat temporary use.

This school year we had an increased number of families that requested tuition assistance. Thank you to those who have given to our Tuition Assistance Fund in the past. We had adequate funds this year to grant the requests. We appreciate any gifts to the fund in the future so we can continue to assist families in affording a Christ-centered education. †

BACK TO SCHOOL WITH PRECAUTIONS

By Andy Reitz

What a strange couple of months! Looking back to when the COVID pandemic first hit, no one could have predicted that we would be on our umpteenth version of the instructional and re-opening plans. The staff and school board have put in countless hours working on how to offer an exceptional education during less than exceptional times.

I will be the first to tell you that these strange times we find ourselves in has put a tremendous strain on our staff. They are such humble servants and are doing their very best to prepare for the upcoming school year. This year will be anything but normal. We have mask mandates to follow, new sanitation procedures to follow, new technology to learn, distance learning plans to prepare for, and contingency plans to roll out all in the event of additional government mandates or positive Covid cases in the school.

But even through all of this, God is blessing us. The school board and staff agreed that we will be open, five days a week for in person instruction. Because we made that decision, we've gained an additional 3 students from the community. The main reason? We are open 5 days a week! The value that parents see with face to face (or mask to mask) instruction in a positive Christian environment led them to our school. We also received a grant to help cope with the COVID issue and we are planning on using that to upgrade our technology systems and secure some classroom sanitation equipment.

Not all the news is so positive though. Our daycare numbers are down and that means the income received from that program is also down, and that is putting a strain on the budget. Parents have just been staying at home with their children or making other arrangements. It has been difficult to predict that and it's our prayer that once school is officially back in session, those numbers will get back to what we expected.

My final request is to continue to support the school with your prayers, your time and talents, and of course your financial support. We have an amazing staff and ministry, and it takes all the above items in generous amounts. Be sure to give some extra encouragement to the staff, both called and hourly, as we are about to venture into a year with many unknowns. But with God's grace and blessing, we will come through better and stronger. †



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

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! †

WAYS TO HELP YOUR SCHOOL



Box Tops App—Look for the Box Tops symbols and upload your receipts within 14 days.



CocaCola Give—Look for codes in caps and cartons. Enter codes online or drop off at school.



Scoopie Tokens—Save tokens from Culver's kids meals. Bring to school.



Loaves 4 Learning UPCs—Save the UPC symbols from Country Hearth, Village Hearth, and other bread products. Bring to school.

CLOTHING DRIVE WRAP UP

by Michelle Gear

Even during a pandemic, we were able to successfully and safely assist over 200 members of our community to receive free clothes. We accepted donations from the community who generously helped make our event a huge success. Days leading up to the event, our volunteers came together and worked tirelessly on sorting and folding clothes, shoes, coats, and accessories. Our volunteers were able to share stories from last year and continued to be amazed at how God had blessed this event with so many items to give away.

When we opened the doors on the first day of the giveaway, we served 59 people within the first hour! Many of whom came back over the next two days to continue shopping! Pastor Proeber made a connection with a gentleman who was struggling. He had been 20 days clean and shared how Jesus had led him to overcome his disease and this clothing giveaway came at a time when he needed it the most! He also mentioned how his girlfriend was struggling with her own addictions and that they were looking for a church to call home.

We helped young and old find great items to add or start their wardrobe. We had shoppers who were there to get some items for a parent/loved one on a fixed income who needed clothes but couldn't budget for the expense in at this time. Our volunteers listened as the shoppers shared where they are in their journey, helped direct them to other areas of outreach that our church offers, and displayed the true meaning of love by being the hands and feet of Jesus. During the event, we also met a dad and daughter who had just moved into the area and were struggling to get on their feet. This dad shared how they had just visited the local pantry, but were unable to get a gallon of milk and other staples. Our volunteers came together, and we were able to buy them some groceries and deliver them to their house!

We may not have had the attendance numbers we were hoping for, but we were able to make an impact on those who came to our event! God is good! †



PACKING GROCERIES

Thank you for the volunteers from your church that helped at SWEPS during the days of 8/10 though 8/14/2020. During those five days 93 households were served for a total of 234 individuals including 8 new clients in South Wood County. We are so thankful for those who care about the well-being of our neighbors in this area.

Our needs are ongoing, so food and monetary donations are continuously and graciously appreciated. We also appreciate receiving paper and plastic bags. Thanks again for your help at SWEPS and supporting those in need in our area.

South Wood Emerging Pantry Shelf
Assisting Operations Manager
Pat Barton †



COOKIES FOR THE TABLE

Usually in September, our congregation would serve the community meal at The Neighborhood Table (TNT). Like most things these days, that has changed. For now, TNT's dining room is closed and they are only preparing bagged to-go meals. Following COVID guidelines, they are only using regular volunteers, instead of different groups each week. Therefore, we will not be serving this year. However, we plan to donate freezable cookies for TNT to include in their to-go meals. We will collect these at the end of September. †

FILLING BACKPACKS

Our congregation donated several backpacks and a dozen bags of notebooks, glue sticks, and other supplies to the Stuff the School Bus drive. In total this community program helped 779 students in the South Wood County area for the upcoming school year! Thank you to everyone who made this happen. †

BOARD OF WORSHIP UPDATE

There are a lot of things going on in worship; and there are definitely aspirations for more things we hope to accomplish in the near future. For instance, the technology crew is looking to eventually replace most, if not all, of the equipment that gets used on a weekly basis—sound board, microphones, speakers, computer, extra cameras for live-streaming, etc. If you have an interest in helping us procure resources like these, please let Al Verjinsky or Pastor Proeber know.

We're also looking to update our liturgical vestments. While the stoles and pulpit cloth are certainly wonderful additions to worship, there's certainly room for more to be done in the space, especially when it comes to cloth seasonal banners and altar cloths that match the color of the church season. The pastors' stoles have also seen better days. Many of them are beginning to fray and become faded. These do come at quite a cost, if ordered professionally. However, some congregations have also commissioned skilled members of the synod to create their own vestments. If that's something you would like to donate toward or work on, please let Veronica Klish or one of the pastors know.

Those are just a few of the additions we would like to make. While we realize these things are not what worship is about, we know that they will help make our worship and related ministries more excellent, which is always our goal. Without question, worship will continue, COVID or not, to be done to God's glory and to the best of our ability so that we serve those in our community with an edifying worship experience. †

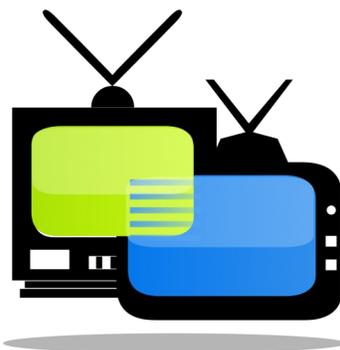
PRAISE REPORT

This family, who lives in Pennsylvania, shared a bit of feedback through our online Connect Card after watching the Easter 2.0 service. What a reminder from God that, even though we often can't see the work he is accomplishing in hearts and lives, he is still working through our ministries to spread the good news to many!

Here's the note: *All I can say, is the Good Lord works in mysterious ways. I could not bring up the regular Sunday Service we watch (technical difficulties with their equipment). I was having a particularly difficult few days and really needed ...something...I googled "Lutheran Online Worship" and your link was the first to come up. We watched the recorded version...the Pastor's sermon brought me to tears and hit the nail on the head for me! The message he relayed was EXACTLY what my family and I needed to hear today. I feel relief and hope and was reminded of what really is important...that HE LIVES! Everything else is temporary...Thank you for sharing this Good News today and Praise God that via technology you reached us! †*



The pastors at Pastor Plagenz's ordination (from the left): Aaron Kristopeit, Kenneth Rodrigue, Tristan Paustian, Lucas Proeber, Peter Plagenz, Tim Wagner, Paul Tullberg, Michael Plagenz, Dennis Valleau, Philip Wilde



WATCHING WORSHIP OLD SCHOOL

Our worship services are shown on the local community access channel.

Solarus 3
Spectrum 985

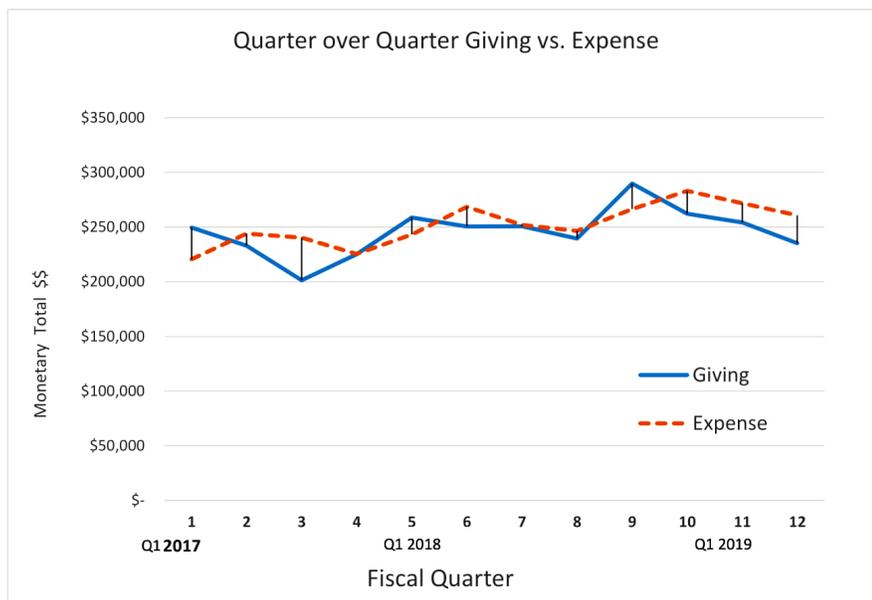
Wednesdays at 1:00PM
Sundays at 6:00PM

TREASURER'S REPORT

By Kevin Meister

Reported last month with your giving statement, the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020 concluded with an operating deficit of (\$40,542). Total giving, all sources, was \$1,041,773 with operating expenses amounting to \$1,082,314. These figures DO NOT include proceeds from the forgivable PPP loan, which is reflected in the current Wood Trust checking account balance of \$87,899.06, as of 8/6/2020. Included with this report is the month-by-month financial summary for the just concluded fiscal period, and also the quarter-by-quarter summary. Revealed in the quarter-by-quarter summary is the three consecutive quarter trend showing expenses exceeding Ministry Plan support by an average quarterly total of \$21,315. Both giving and expenses also show a bit of a downward trend. With the opening of school (hopefully) being just around the corner, which also means the receipt of tuition resources, this downward giving trend should end.

As we all enjoy the last few weeks of the summer of 2020, despite the Covid-crisis continuing to impact our daily lives, do continue to thank God for the many blessings we all have including our own St Paul's Church. †



TIRED OF WRITING CHECKS?

Your ongoing support of this ministry is important, and we gladly accept your gifts no matter what form they come in. However if you are ready to transition to electronic giving, we can help. Either visit our website and tap on the GIVE tab, or contact the church office. Regular gifts can be set up through PayPal or Vanco Payments, an affiliate of Thrivent Financial. †



A STEWARDSHIP NOTE

By Mike Anderson

The Federal CARES Act, which was designed to help the nation recover from the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, has a few applications for charitable giving, two of which are:

- **New Charitable Deduction for Non-Itemizers:** Taxpayers who take the standard deduction for income tax purposes can also claim a charitable deduction of up to \$300 for cash donations in 2020. Almost every taxpayer can take advantage of this benefit this year.
- **Higher Deduction Limits:** Individuals will be able to deduct cash gifts in 2020 up to 100% of their Adjusted Gross Income (AGI), up from the previous cap of 60%. This benefit has far fewer applications!

For more information of the other changes to the tax law, please see your tax professional. †

ENCOURAGE ONE ANOTHER

By Randy Pahl

As with most things going on in our country today, it has been an unsettled time for our Elders as well. Trying to visit members who need spiritual encouragement as well as keeping in touch with those who are in facilities that will not allow visitors has been a challenge to say the least.

Before the pandemic struck a list of members from our congregation who hadn't been in attendance at church over a period of time was distributed. You were asked to check and see if there was an individual or family whom you knew personally that you could contact. With the onset of COVID-19 now might be the perfect time to reach out to them. Simple ideas for encouragement could include but are not limited to:

- 1) come to worship to meet the new Pastor (or maybe for some Pastors) and the old Staff Minister;
- 2) sharing with them how they could view our worship services on-line;
- 3) what about a simple visit to our Facebook page or website to pique their interest;
- 4) giving them a phone call or dropping them a quick postcard or note in the mail.

These are just a few suggestions for that "personal touch" that just might make the difference in someone's life.

Finally, as for the future, only the good Lord knows what that will bring. Will we get back to the former way of life or will it be the "new normal." How will that affect what we as a Board will be able to implement or do (the Peter Plan for instance) truly remains to be seen. However, with that said, we would ask that you continue to pray for us, our congregation, our community, country, and world knowing that our Triune God is in control and that our times are truly in His hands. †

encourage
ONE AN- &
OTHER

build each other up

1 Thessalonians 5:11



FELLOWSHIP REPORT

By Randy DeBoer

Blessings: Stephen Ministers* are currently working with care receivers**. New materials are on order, some of which are information about Alzheimer's to be able to better serve care receivers. Currently, some care givers are without care receivers.

We will consider doing Family Fun Nights. We will consider volleyball nights.

We have completed Pastor Plagenz's ordination. Randy Pahl's 40th anniversary planning is in progress.

* Stephen Ministers are congregation members trained to offer care to people who are hurting. A Stephen Minister typically has one care receiver at a time and meets with that person once a week for about an hour. There is no charge for this ministry.

** Care receivers are individuals in the congregation or community who are going through a crisis or life difficulty. Potential care receivers first meet with a pastor or Stephen Leader, who assesses their needs for care and matches them with a Stephen Minister. The caring relationship lasts for as long as the need persists. †



Christ caring for people through people

- Connect - Volunteer -

If you would like to meet with a Stephen Minister or are interested in becoming a Stephen Minister, please contact one of the Stephen Ministry Leaders:

Susie Dempze: 715-424-1324 or jscranby@gmail.com

Mike Grosskruetz: 715-315-2744 or mgrosskruetz@tds.net

CERTAINTY IN UNCERTAIN TIMES?

By Randy Pahl

"Here we go again!" I would imagine you have heard that remark more than a few times in your life, and maybe even more so in the past five months. It seems with the changes that are occurring within our country, state, and city on an almost weekly (daily) basis the amount of information and change can be a bit overwhelming!

So, here we go again! For the past several weeks meetings have been taking place on a regular basis in both the church and the school and sometimes with both groups. Safety for everyone associated with our church (as well as our visitors) and school has been a top priority, as well as following the ever changing government mandates as best as humanly possible.

As this article goes to print we are hoping to move forward with the celebration of the good Lord's allowing me to serve Him and His people for 40 years in the

public ministry on Sunday, August 23. We are also planning to open our school for in-person classes = 5 days a week beginning on Monday, August 24th, with the opening service scheduled for 9:00 a.m.

Are we certain the above activities will actually take place? We can answer that question with a resounding NO! However, we DO know for certain that we truly have an awesome God who helps us and watches over us, "My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth...the Lord watches over you." [Psalm 121:2+5] And, he is faithful to His people, "God, who has called you into fellowship with his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, is faithful." [I Corinthians 1:9]

So with that, we can answer the title of our article with a resounding YES!! We can be certain that God will care for us, even in these uncertain times, and not only now but until we reach our heavenly home! †



PROPERTY BOARD HARD AT WORK

By Larry Wesenberg

- Purchased and installed new hot water heater for school
- Built and installed drive thru gate at preschool playground fence
- Had stump removed at parsonage 1
- Landscaping: replaced worn edging around shrubs and around church sign

With the school closing earlier this spring many items were done earlier than normal.

- Shampooed all carpets in the classrooms, child-care, welcome center, and offices
- Waxed cafeteria and 3K floors
- Cleaned and lubricated electric door lock mechanism on church entrance door
- Purchased new refrigerator for parsonage 2 †

FAMILY MINISTRY REPORT

by Kent Schroeder

The Board of Family Ministry is working on getting a Sunday school program going. The plan is to go virtual with a program from Northwestern Publishing where materials will be sent directly to the families (see Sunday School at Home on page 2).

We are also looking at sending to college age members a devotional packet from Northwestern Publishing.

We are also covering the Stewardship efforts for the congregation. Look for information coming out soon.

We also oversee all bible study classes and are looking for opportunities to expand the further studying of God's Word.

We continue to develop and expand the "My Personal Ministry" program. †

SPECIAL GIFTS AND MEMORIALS

Through August 16, 2020

Current Expenses

- In memory of Bud Zuege given by Stephanie Bathke

Cheerful Givers

- In memory of Gilbert Pecher given by Ron & Georgene Provost

Mortgage

- In memory of Gilbert Pecher given by Nona Henke & Robert Stake, Marilyn Link, and other friends and family

Pastor Teacher Assistance Fund

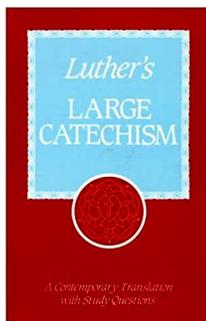
- In memory of Edna's sister-in-law, Shirley Haferman given by Edna & Faith Haferman
- In memory of Elton Zuege given by Edna & Faith Haferman

Missions

- In honor of Pastor Plagenz's ordination given by Dale & June Kretschmer

Northland Lutheran High School

- In memory of Dan Mortenson given by Larry & Veronica Klish, Edna & Faith Haferman, and Tom & Barb Reitz



WOMEN WALKING IN THE WORD

Studying Luther's
Large Catechism

Tuesdays at 9:45-11:00AM

Beginning Sept. 1

CATECHISM CORNER

By giving two commands that address coveting, God impresses upon us that even if we haven't actually stolen something, a sinful desire to have something that is not ours is wrong. How do the Ninth and Tenth Commandments serve as a mirror, unmasking the sin of coveting within our hearts?



Romans 7:7,8 What will we say then? Is the law sin? Absolutely not! On the contrary, I would not have recognized sin except through the law. For example, *I would not have known about coveting if the law had not said, "You shall not covet."* But sin, seizing the opportunity provided by this commandment, produced every kind of sinful desire in me. For apart from the law, sin is dead.

James 4:1,2 Where do conflicts and quarrels among you come from? Don't they come from *your cravings for pleasure, which are at war in the parts of your body?* You want something but do not get it, so you murder. *You desire something* but cannot obtain it, so you quarrel and fight. You do not have because you do not ask.

1 Timothy 6:9,10 Those who *want to get rich* fall into temptation and a trap and many foolish and harmful desires, which plunge them into complete destruction and utter ruin. For the love of money is a root of all sorts of evils. By *striving for* money, some have wandered away from the faith and have pierced themselves with many pains.

Mark 7:21,22 In fact, from *within, out of people's hearts*, come evil thoughts, sexual sins, theft, murder, adultery, greed, wickedness, deceit, unrestrained immorality, envy, slander, arrogance, and foolishness.

These commandments convict us, exposing our sinful desires to have things God has not given to us.

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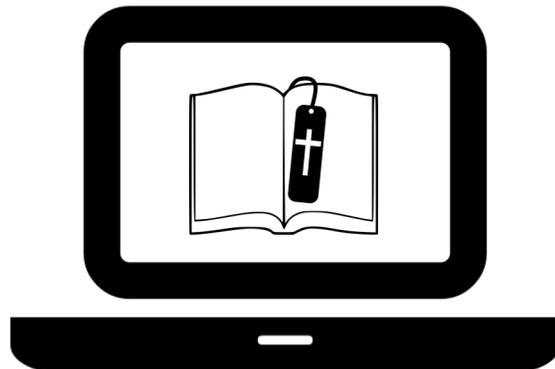
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September 2020 edition

Upcoming Events

Aug. 30 ~ Sunday Study on Isaiah
Sept. 1 ~ Study on Large Catechism
Sept. 9 ~ A People Close to God
Sept. 13 ~ Virtual Sunday School

See page 2 to learn about join our
Sunday study virtually.



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