



THE EPISTLE

Monthly Newsletter of
St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church

August 2016

Time for Some Good News

Have you watched the news lately? If you have, has it left you feeling discouraged about the condition of the world and concerned for its future? If you haven't watched the news lately, then did you avoid it on purpose because it's so depressing? All the media ever seems to report on is the bad news. Every day we are informed of another terrorist attack in Europe, another shooting here in the United States. Violence. Division. Death. That's all we ever hear. Don't you wish for once that you could just hear some good news?

The disciples longed to hear some good news, too, as they huddled together in a locked room just days after Jesus' crucifixion and death. They had just watched their lord and teacher—the one whom they thought was promised to rescue Israel—beaten and murdered. The Roman and Jewish authorities had won, and everything seemed lost. Violence. Division. Death. That's all they could see...until the women who had gone to the tomb came to tell them that Jesus had risen from the dead. The disciples were so overwhelmed by the evil that they had seen, that they found it difficult to believe this good news (Luke 24:8-11). Yet, their news inspired Peter to run to the tomb to see the linen cloths for himself (Luke 24:12). The women's witness gave Peter a reason to look for Jesus alive. The women's witness gave Peter the courage to hope. (*Continued on page 2.*)

“As a community of Christian believers, we are called by God to use the many gifts He has given us, within the church and the community, so others may come to know Him.”

- St. Paul Mission Statement

The Epistle has a new format! Comments? Questions? Contact Pastor Emily at

stpaulpastor@gmail.com

In This Issue

- Feature Article from the Pastor
- Upcoming Events in the Life of the Congregation
- A Special Thank You
- August Servant Schedule
- New Council

You can have courage to hope, even in the face of violence, division, and death because you know that Jesus is alive. You know that even when it seems like all should be lost, it isn't. Even at the crucifixion, God was working to bring about his purposes for the world. Even as death and division threaten to destroy the world as we know it, God is still working to bring about his purposes. You know that Jesus is risen. You know that Jesus is at work in this world for healing, and Jesus will keep working until all the world knows him and the Father's love.

But the world will not know this unless we tell them. We can't leave it up to the media. It's up to us to share that Christ is alive and offers forgiveness, healing, and life to all. It's up to us to point to where we see Jesus, for whenever we see healing, forgiveness, and life, we know that the Holy Spirit is behind it. Our neighbors and we ourselves may find it difficult to believe this good news because of all the evil that we have seen. Yet, your witness might just give others a reason to look for Jesus alive. Your witness might just give another the courage to hope. Run and tell others when you see empty grave clothes and evidence around you that Jesus is alive because this world could really use some good news. ~Pastor Emily Beckering

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT SEARCH

We posted the position on ZipRecruiter and Monster.com in order to receive professional candidates. Monster yielded 18 candidates and ZipRecruiter has brought forth 178 resumes thus far! Nancy Erbeck and Pastor Emily are reviewing these applications and starting phone interviews. Chelsea King continues to serve our congregation well. She is continually searching for ways to make everything run more efficiently!

Ministry Opportunities

- (1) Love accompanying children in their walk with Jesus? If you would be willing to serve in the nursery one Sunday a month or more, then please contact Joyce McDowell at joycemcdowelldc@yahoo.com
- (2) Passionate about alleviating hunger? There is an opportunity to do something about it! Wednesday, August 10th, from 6:30-8:30pm, our sisters and brothers at Prince of Peace in Loveland are hosting an event to pack meals for local families. Sign-up on the sheet in the narthex if you are interested.

Seniors Flying Solo

On Sunday, July 31, we will attend the dinner theatre production of "Harvey" by the St. Paul Players.

On Wednesday, August 24, we plan to tour the AMERICAN SIGN MUSEUM for a reminiscent display of all kinds of businesses of years ago. The tour is scheduled for 11 a.m., so we will leave the church no later than 10:30. The one-hour tour is \$10 per person. We will have lunch together (to be decided) after the tour. Sounds interesting!

I realize that this is early, but the Church Basement Ladies ARE back again at LaComedia in March! We are trying to make reservations for our group for MARCH 23, 2017, but they're not scheduling for this until August. We'll try to get seating close to the stage (and the food). Cost will be the same as last year--\$38.

~Elinor Schieman

Tender Mercies

Just a reminder that our Tender Mercies Bingo is **Sunday, August 14 at 3:00 pm.** Please let me know if you are interested in participating. We can always use extra bodies to help out.

As always, we are in need of items for our gift baskets. No donation is too large or too small. If you are interested in making baked goods for the residents, please let me know. We are in need of brownies, Rice Krispie Treats and homemade cookies. We will be serving sub-sandwiches with chips, baked goods and assorted drinks. We have great gift baskets and the residents love to see us. It's a great opportunity to help the less fortunate.

You can drop off/donate any items at St. Paul.

My contact info is –
houdinicat@cinci.rr.com home email
rcalhoun@mrsi.com work email
513-251-2417 home phone
513-283-8612 work phone
513-236-5385 cell phone

Can't wait to hear from you - Marie Calhoun

Dorcas Circle

The ladies are working feverishly to make as many quilts as possible for Lutheran World Relief. We have been blessed to receive Thrivent Action Team funds that allow us to purchase bales of batting for the quilts. In addition, we have received an amazing amount of donations of fabric as well as sheets. Thank you so much for your help.

A extra workday has been scheduled for September. We will meet on Wednesday, September 7, as well as our usual date of Sept. 21.

Update on the QUILT RAFFLE: Tickets will be sold in the narthex before and after worship each Sunday in September. Cost of tickets will \$4 each or 3 tickets for \$10. Drawing for the quilts will be on Sunday, October 2. On that Sunday all the quilts will be displayed in the sanctuary for the blessing, and the raffle winners will be able to choose a quilt from the entire group.

~ Elinor Schieman

August Ministry Schedule

If you are unable to serve as scheduled below, then please arrange for a replacement.

Thank you!

7 **12th Pentecost**
Assisting Minister: Taylor Beckering
Reader: Sherry Bronner
Acolyte: Maggie McDowell
Communion Ministers: Terry McDowell; Elinor Schieman

14 **13th Pentecost**
Assisting Minister: Nancy Erbeck
Reader: Carroll Mayhugh
Acolyte: Olivia Lohmeier

21 **14 Pentecost**
Assisting Minister: Terry McDowell
Reader: Penny Huber
Acolyte: Molly McDowell
Communion Ministers: Elinor Schieman

28 **15 Pentecost**
Assisting Minister: Doug Lohmeier
Reader: Carroll Mayhugh
Acolyte: Olivia Hedges

Greeters: Cindy Sieckman
Bulletin Folders: Ron & Carole Replogle
Altar Guild: Jane Erbeck, Linen
 Carole Replogle, Set Up
 Holly Ford, Clean Up

ITEM OF THE MONTH

For the month of August, please bring **Feminine Products**. Place them under the giving tree in the narthex. We'd love to be able to donate 100 items per month!

A Special Thank You

Thank you so much to everyone for praying Allan through these last few months, and for all of your cards and kind words when Allan passed away.

Thank you especially to Linda Miller for coordinating the luncheon and for all who brought food, served, and cleaned up after the meal.

All that you have done is so appreciated.

You truly wept and mourned with us, and I am so thankful to call St. Paul's home.

~Cindy Sieckman

CELEBRATIONS IN AUGUST

1	Bess Sturgill
4	Noah Smith-Trondle
6	Carolyn Koehl
8	Jeff & Holly Ford
10	Webb Grandy Anna Smith-Trondle
11	James Dageforde
15	Kirstyn Kriener
16	Kyra Cowan Maci Lawson
19	Ed & Kathy Hirt
22	Doug & Marty Lohmeier
26	Bob Portmann
	Jack & Joyce Spelman
27	
	David & Amanda Peery
28	
	Jack & Barbara Moorehouse
29	Mary Jane Flege



MEN'S LUNCH AND BIBLE STUDY

All men of the congregation are invited to come for lunch and a Bible study discussion with Pastor Emily at St. Paul's on Wednesday, August 31st at noon. No preparation or expertise is required. Bring a bag lunch. If it is a hit, we'll make it a monthly affair!

Our Life Together

For emergency pastoral care, please call Pastor Emily Beckering, 513-760-5884.

If you have requests for the Prayer Chain, call Penny Huber, 513-931-6420. To remove people from the list, contact the office.

We pray for **Mary and her granddaughter Kyra** (friend of Paul Pieper); **Jerry Begley** (friend of Kathy Hirt); **Berkeley** (great-grandson of the Curlesses); **Jimmy Bertheaud** (friend of the Portmanns); **Lily Cole** (aunt of David Hill and Chrissy Harris); **Amberly Derby** (friend of Molly McDowell); **Jeremy Doan** (Jean Winkle's grandson); **Jerry Doan** (Jean Winkle's son-in-law); **Kathy Downie** (Sieckman's neighbor); **Bus Faulkner**; **Larry Faulkner** (Bus and Freda's son); **Les Helmich**; Les Helmich's children **Bruce and Elaine**; **Greg Hershey** (cousin of Steve Headley); **Sandy Hill** (sister-in-law of David Hill); **Matt Huber** (Penny Huber's son); **Karen Kerlln**; **Jay King** (son of Jamie King, who cleans the church); **Loretta Kombrink** (Marilyn Portmann's aunt); **Charlotte Langefeld**; **Doug Meyers' Family** (friends of the Portmanns); **David Oaks** (son-in-law of Bus Faulkner); **Craig Olsen** (friend of the Sieckmans); **Edward and Elain Peterson** (brother and sister-in-law of Shirley Harbaugh); **William Pratley** (friend of Pastor Emily); **Sarah Rupert** (Carolyn Koehl's sister); **James Savory** (Jean Winkle's great-grandson); **Pauline Schauer** (cousin of Cindy Sieckman); **Michael Schmitt** (Jean Winkle's son-in-law); **Kim Sieckman**; **the Silva Family** (daughter and son-in-law of Tammy Trees); **Jason Simpson** (grand-nephew of Bus and Freda Faulkner); **Speedy Sizemore** (friend of Marie Calhoun); **Scott Songer** (friend of Jean Winkle); **Crosley Spelman** (grandson of Jack and Joyce Spelman); **Audrey Stuart** (sister of Rita Edwards); **Bill Swallender** (in-law of the Millers); **Britney Jean Teems** (Jean Winkle's granddaughter); **Irene Waddle**; **Debbie Willet** (co-worker of Holly Ford); **Susan Winkle** (daughter-in-law of Jean Winkle); **Anna Louise Witker** (Carolyn Koehl's mother).

We pray for those with ongoing health concerns who are unable to come to church every week: **Bernice Baglien, Dottie Bangert, Norm Dageforde, Pat Edwards, Bus Faulkner, Mary Jane Flege, Ruth Jones, Carol Leonard, Marge Malin, Jack and Barbara Moorhouse, Jean Nolte, Heather Segar, Edna Willet.**

We pray for our armed forces members: **Paul Cordes** (grandson of Elinor Schieman); **Jared Forst** (grandson of Jim and Loretta); **John Garbrecht** (nephew of Carolyn Koehl); **Beau Glenn** (son-in-law of Karen Koehl); **Kylie Hahn** (granddaughter of Gretta Hahn); **Donald Hosea** (son of Karen Koehl); **Kyle Murdoch** (friend of Holly Ford); **Jobeth Ramirez** (friend of Karen Koehl); **Joshua Rodriguez** (friend of Karen Koehl); **Mack Thompson** (grandson of Freda and Bus Faulkner); **Mylan Watkins** (friend of the Ford family).

Christian Education

We are gearing up for another year of nurturing and growing in our Christian Faith.

Rally Day is Sunday, September 11th.

Our Intergenerational Sunday School rotation will begin after Rally Day and will follow this pattern in 2016-2017:

1st Sunday: Intergenerational Bible Study

2nd Sunday: Community Breakfast

3rd Sunday: Intergenerational Service Project

4th Sunday: Adult Forums focusing on Communication, Strengthening Relationships, and Visioning our Mission

Children will participate in a craft and game the 4th Sunday of the month

Lawn Games and Lemonade

After worship on Sunday, August 14th, we will celebrate our life together with lawn games and lemonade.

The Evangelism Committee will provide sandwiches, and all are invited to bring a side dish to share. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex.

Student Education Scholarships

College students are welcome to apply for a student education scholarship from St. Paul's.

Applications are available in the narthex, or electronic forms can be emailed to those interested.

Please submit completed applications and inquiries to mail@stpaulreading.org

The deadline for applications is August 15th.

St. Paul Lutheran Church

Reverend Emily Beckering, Pastor
Barry L. Prince, Director of Music
Janet King, Sacristan
Dennis King, Financial Secretary
David Hill, Drama Ministry Director

President, Nancy Erbeck

Vice President and Christian Education, Diana Hawkins

Secretary and Music and Worship, Carole Replogle

Treasurer and Finance, Linda Miller

Stewardship, Jim Forst

Social Concerns, Penny Huber

Property, Dennis King

Evangelism, Pat Coldiron

Contact Us

St. Paul Lutheran Church

A Congregation of the
Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America

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Visit us on the web at
www.stpaulreading.org

10:30 am Worship
Service

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PLACE
STAMP
HERE