



# The Epistle

## Mini-Series: 5 Biblical Principles of Money

Want to learn how to manage money like God? Follow principles numbers 4 and 5 below.

Principle #4: Generosity reflects God's nature.

"God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. We love because he first loved us" (*1 John 4:16, 18*). God the Son showed us this love by emptying himself—pouring out his life on the cross and giving himself for us—so that we might live his life (*Phil. 2:4-11*). When we "empty ourselves" by choosing to give money in Jesus' name rather than save it or spend it on ourselves, then we reflect God's own nature and other people see and experience Christ. But surprisingly, God turns our sacrifice of giving into a blessing that fills us up: God makes giving a joyful experience by using us to make a difference for others and provides what we need so that we live an abundant life (*2 Cor. 9:8*)! Joy itself is also a reflection of God's nature because God delights in caring for us.

Principle #5: Confess Jesus as Lord with your money.

How we use our money shows what we value (*Mt 6:21; Luke 12:34*). When we buy Bengals memorabilia, we show that we value that team over others. When we

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Valley Interfaith  
Donation Item of  
the Month:

Canned Fruit



## 5 Biblical Principles of Money

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save for college for our children, we show that we value education. When we give our offering rather than spend it or save it for ourselves, we show that God's claim on our life is more important than anything else. You've heard it said: "put your money where your mouth is." Jesus says, "Put your money where your heart is" when he says, "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Mt. 6:21; Luke 12:34). God asks us to confess Jesus as Lord of our lives with our mon-

"For all this I owe it to God to thank and praise, serve and obey him."

Please bring canned fruit for the Giving Tree during the month of October. Thank you for your generosity!



ey (Mt. 16:13).

This is why Martin Luther teaches in the Small Catechism in the explanation to the first article of the creed that when we confess we believe in God the Father, we are confessing that God has created us and all that exists, and that God gives us everything that we have. He concludes his explanation to the First Article of the Creed: "For all this I owe it to God to thank and praise, serve and obey him."

We praise, serve, and obey God when we confess Jesus Christ as Lord with our money. The challenge is that we don't let our confession end with the Apostles' Creed on Sunday morning but that we confess that Jesus lives with our actions, decisions, and with the money God has loaned us.

The question for us, then, is: how can I use what God has given me to confess God as Lord and Creator of the universe, who loves all and provides for all?

In Christ,

Pastor Emily Beckering

## Testimony from Mrs. Carole Replogle

Several members of the congregation offered their testimonies of faith during the month of September. Carole's testimony was originally given in worship on Sept. 10, 2017.

As many of you know, my husband, Ron, was diagnosed with cancer in October 2016 and passed away on June 18, 2017. Without the Replogle Family and the St. Paul Family, heaven only knows where I would be today; probably insane! How did the St. Paul Family help? Pastor Emily gave a beautiful, uplifting service for Ron, Barry Prince, the Music Director, was most helpful in planning the music for Ron's funeral, your cards & letters, your phone calls, the food you prepared for the luncheon after Ron's funeral, the hostesses who served the luncheon, and the donations you gave to St. Paul in Ron's memory showed how the Holy Spirit works at St. Paul.



After we married in 2001, Ron did all of our cooking so after 15 years, I had forgotten how to do so. Again, the St. Paul Family stepped forward. How? They kept me from starving! The many meals you provided were not only delicious but also provided much needed nourishment. Each meal proved what a loving, caring congregation St. Paul is and how the Holy Spirit moves us to care for others.

Many members have expressed their feelings about what a wonderful group of people attend our Church. I personally realized this with the love and concern shown to me during the past few months. My heart sings for joy at being a part of St. Paul and for all the good works done in God's name through our Church.

May God continue to bless you and St. Paul as we travel our spiritual journey together.

Carole Replogle

WELCA Retreat  
Nov. 10-11



The 8th annual fall retreat of the Cincinnati Conference of WELCA is Nov. 10 and 11 at Sisters of Charity, 5900 Delhi Rd., St. Joseph, Ohio. The program is "Protestant Rosary Beads". Registration is due by Nov. 4 and costs \$60, which includes lodging, breakfast, and lunch. Please bring your Bible and a snack to share.

Please contact Kathy DeLong at [rkdelong71@aol.com](mailto:rkdelong71@aol.com) or 513-893-0069 for more information.

## Reformation Dinner: Fundraiser for National Youth Gathering

Fine German cuisine is a tradition at St. Paul's on Reformation Sunday. We will continue this tradition in a new way this year. You get to eat all the

## Testimony from Ms. Chelsea King

*Chelsea's testimony was originally given in worship on Sept. 17, 2017.*

People often ask why I am in a wheelchair. Cerebral Palsy is caused by lack of oxygen to the brain at birth. You might expect me to spend my life asking, "why me?" Why did this happen to me? I don't know truthfully, but it doesn't bother me. The important question for me has always been, "Why *not* me?" Since I was a child, I have always asked, "Why not me? Why can't I walk like my peers or why can't I learn how to

*I have hope because I know God is always working through me; I just try to pay attention to how He is.*

good food without the work of a pot-luck! The youth of our congregation with the gracious help of Marie Calhoun and Donald Harris, will prepare and serve our Reformation Sunday congregation dinner. The food will be purchased with the help of a Thrivent Action Team Card. You are invited to give donations in gratitude for the youth's

*(Continued on page 5)*

drive?" I always thought I could. I have always dared to try new things, meet new people, go new places, and have new adventures along the way. That is all because of what God has taught me, and much of it, He taught me here at St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

Some may see my chair as a limitation. I do not. I do not thank my parents and doctors who saw the importance of what different therapies could do for me; otherwise, I would not be as independent as I am today. I know I don't say it enough of how important my parents were as my advocates as a youngster. Thank you.

Just because I use a wheelchair doesn't mean that life can't be an adventure. Learning how to adapt to my surroundings is a puzzle and I love challenges. Growing up playing wheelchair sports, I gained confidence in my strength and what is truly possible. To date, I have tried many wheelchair sports including basketball, tennis, rock climbing, snow skiing, bowling, archery, and kayaking. I recently learned how to play the dulcimer.

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## Testimony from Ms. Chelsea King

*(Continued from page 4)*



Attending college out of state in Kenosha, Wisconsin, at Carthage College allowed me to do things in my own way. My parents were shocked that I said before we left I wouldn't communicate with them for at least two weeks, so I could get into a routine. Yes, I didn't know anyone when I arrived, but I

knew God would guide me through the process even through the tough times.

Even though there are days or times when I've been discouraged, overall, I have joy because I know God is with me.

When I meet people, often they say to me, "You have a great Smile. Keep up the good attitude!" My contagious joy comes from Jesus because He provides hope. I have hope because I know God is always working through me; I just try to pay attention to how He is. I have hope because I know my calling: to be a light for those of every age whom I come across. A few examples of how I've been a light include encouraging a resident at Mallard Cove Assisted Living to learn how to play the dulcimer who has some dexterity issues with her hands. She now loves playing the instrument all because she saw that I could and that encouraged her to believe that she could play the dulcimer, too. Over the years, I have been asked to be the subject of school projects and college papers. Most recently, Molly McDowell, a member of this congregation, asked to write a paper about the situations I went through in high school. I share these stories of how I

*(Continued on page 6)*

*(Continued from page 4)*



work. All proceeds will help the youth travel to the National Youth Gathering in Houston, TX, next summer so that they can grow in faith with 30,000 other Lutheran youth. So, stay for the congregational meeting after worship, then go to the Fellowship Hall to sit back and enjoy fine German food and fellowship with your sisters and brothers in Christ as we commemorate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation.

Reading High  
School Choir  
Concert Oct. 23

As Reading High School's building is under construction this year, we are happy to welcome the school choir to hold their concerts here in St. Paul's sanctuary.

*Sometimes, it catches me by surprise just how God finds ways to bless me.*

The choir's first concert of the year is on Monday, Oct. 23 at 7:30 pm and is free of charge. It will be an American-themed program of country music.

Thanks to these local young musicians for sharing their time and talents with us!

## Testimony from Ms. Chelsea King

*(Continued from page 5)*

have influenced people because most of us don't realize what impact we really have.

Jeremiah 29:11 says, "I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord. Plans for your good and not disaster. Plans to give you a future and a hope." This verse encourages me. I have a future and hope because I know my purpose. My purpose in life is to be a symbol of hope and joy to those whom I may encounter on this journey of life. I will keep using my talents of music,

working with children, mentoring, and caring for people as a Communion Minister here at St. Paul's.

Romans 8 and the story of Joseph tell us that God is at work in all circumstances for our good. I know this to be true. The circumstances of my life have given me a strong character. You only have one life and I'm grateful for mine.

My chair is a part of me, but it doesn't define me. Christ does. God has taken this chair and made it a blessing for me in surprising ways.

Sometimes, I don't realize how He blessed me until later. Sometimes, it catches me by surprise just how God finds ways to bless me. So, when Christ comes again, I want to take my chair with me to say, "Thank you. Thank you for allowing me to be your hands and feet." Then I'll be ready to let it go.

I know from Scripture that the day will come when I will run, jump, skip, and leap. Because of the Gospel and the relationship that I have with Jesus, however, this side of heaven—I consider myself to be healed.

Chelsea King

## Tender Mercies Bingo Event Oct. 22

If you'd care to participate in the Tender Mercies Bingo on Sunday, October 22nd at 3 pm, please contact Marie Calhoun at 513-251-2417 or 513-236-5385 or [houdinicat@cinci.rr.com](mailto:houdinicat@cinci.rr.com) or

[rose.calhoun@talberthouse.org](mailto:rose.calhoun@talberthouse.org). You don't have to go with us to help out. You can donate individually wrapped, fresh baked cookies, brownies or Rice Krispie treats and bring them to St. Paul by the 22nd and I can pick them up after service that day. OR, if you'd like to donate a case of water or a box of individual size bags of chips or snacks, that would be great, too.

These bingo games would not be possible without your generosity.

Thank you for all of your help and donations -

Marie



## Operation Christmas Child Donations



small gifts and toys, and money for shipping the boxes.

Kathy will continue collecting through November 19. Thank you for your generosity!

St. Paul's  
Children's Choir  
Begins Oct. 4



Children ages 6 to 12 are invited to join St. Paul's Children's Choir! Carolyn Koehl, who has been a long-time music educator in schools and churches, will direct. Rehearsals are Wednesdays from 5 to 6 pm, beginning October 4.

This is a fantastic opportunity for our kids to begin on the lifelong path of choral music.

Quarterly Con-gregational  
Meeting Oct. 29



St. Paul's next con-gregational meet-ing will be on Sun-day, October 29 im-mediately after worship. Topics dis-cussed will include stewardship and the 2018 budget. Please join us for the meeting and then stay for the delicious Refor-mation Lunch pre-pared by the youth group.

## OWLS (Older Wiser Lutheran Seniors)



Our group will be view-ing two awesome films in the next few months. The first one will be *The Shack*. A date will be an-nounced in the Novem-ber Epistle. It is recom-mended that you read

the book (it is short) before seeing the film to fully ap-preciate the film. Hopefully, a copy or two will be available for lending. Some may have a few questions after the film, so a brief discussion will follow. Please plan to join us for this.



**Lutheran World Relief**  
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. LASTING PROMISE.

## Dorcas Circle Quilts Bless the World

The quilts for Lutheran World Relief will be packed this week and delivered to a church in Kettering. From there, the truck will deliver our quilts, along with those from many other area churches, to a LWR ware-house where they will be shipped to destinations around the world. We will publish the final number of quilts that are on their way.

In addition, this year we hope to be able to track our quilts so we know just where they will be sent.

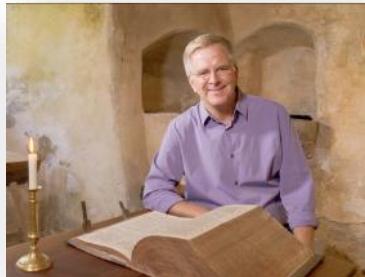
Thank you to the ladies who have worked on the quilts, and thank you to all who have provided sup-plies—and especially for the prayers of blessing.

## Blessing of the Animals Oct. 8

Have you heard? It's time for the annual Blessing of the Animals! Please bring your pets or service animals to church at 2 pm on Oct. 8 for a special blessing and service. The service will be held outdoors.



## Martin Luther Movie Showing Oct. 27



As part of our commemoration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, Carroll Mayhugh will lead a presentation of Rick Steves' documentary *Luther and the Reformation*, Oct. 27 at 6 pm. The one-hour film will be followed by a brief discussion. Come and enjoy seeing the cities and churches where Luther lived, worked, and transformed Europe.

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## Celebrations in October



- |           |                                       |
|-----------|---------------------------------------|
| 11        | Brianna Pirrmann,<br>Marilyn Portmann |
| 13        | Parker Bronner                        |
| <b>16</b> | <b>Bus &amp; Freda Faulkner</b>       |

- |           |                                   |
|-----------|-----------------------------------|
| 16        | Amanda Peery                      |
| 19        | Ron Harbaugh                      |
| <b>20</b> | <b>Bob &amp; Marilyn Portmann</b> |
| 22        | Terry McDowell                    |
| 24        | Mary Wagner                       |
| 26        | Ken Buhr                          |
| 26        | Abby Harbaugh                     |

Thrivent Work-  
shop Oct. 15



At 12:15 pm on October 15, Thrivent representative Mark Wilkins will present a workshop entitled *Your Legacy: Family, Church, Charity*.

From Thrivent's website: "It's all about traditions, heirlooms, family values and more. There are people or causes you care about. We can help you uncover ways to enrich their futures. This workshop is for anyone interested in leaving a legacy regardless of total assets."

Thrivent is a not-for-profit organization and no products will be sold.

## Sowing, Reaping, Rebirth, and Joy this Month



## October Sunday School Teaching Schedule

Date	Oct. 1	Oct. 8	Oct. 15	Oct. 22	Oct. 29
<b>Ages 3-7</b>	Jane Erbeck, Shirley Lathrop	Jane Erbeck, Chrissy Harris	Jane Erbeck, Jeni Cathcart	Jane Erbeck, Chelsea King	
<b>Ages 8-11</b>	Diana Hawkins, John Cathcart	Nancy Erbeck, Kim Coulahan	Nancy Erbeck, Sarah Papin	Nancy Erbeck, Chrissy Harris	
<b>Jr./Sr. High</b>	Donald Harris, Chelsea King	Donald Harris, Sarah Papin	Donald Harris, Chrissy Harris	Donald Harris, John Cathcart	
<b>Nursery</b>	Shirley Lathrop, Joyce McDowell	Maggie McDowell, Jeni Cathcart	Leandra Hawkins, Bess Sturgill	Maggie McDowell, Shirley Lathrop	Jeni Cathcart, Leandra Hawkins
<b>Activity Time</b>	Leandra Hawkins	Leandra Hawkins	Joyce McDowell	Bess Sturgill	Penny Huber

# 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); **Berkeley** (Carol Curless's great-grandson); **Jimmy Bertheaud** (friend of the Portmanns); **Merle Buck; Kathy Curless; Debbie, Steve, Jessica Davis** (friends of Holly Ford); **Julie Dietrich** (Ginny Pape's daughter); **Jeremy Doan** (Jean Winkle's grandson); **Jerry Doan** (Jean Winkle's son-in-law); **Rita Edwards; Bus Faulkner; Larry Faulkner** (Bus and Freda's son); **Justin Feldman** (Bess Sturgill's father); **Jim Forst; Bill Harris and Cheryl Harris** (relatives of Donald Harris); **Matthew Harrison** (Seals' neighbor); **David Hill; Les Helmich; Matt Huber** (Penny Huber's son); **Jay King** (son of Jamie King, who cleans the church); **Loretta Kombrink** (Marilyn Portmann's aunt); **Charlotte Langefeld; Barbara and Jack Moorhouse; Jean Nolte; David Oaks** (Bus Faulkner's son-in-law); **Ginny Pape; Ray Pape; Don Pflieger** (Kings' brother-in-law); **Paul Pieper; Faith Pirrmann; Nick Pirrmann; Sarah Rupert** (Carolyn Koehl's sister); **James Savory** (Jean Winkle's great-grandson); **Shawn Schnetzer** (Sturgills' cousin); **Keith Shupe** (father of

Kelly Shupe); **Jason Simpson** (Bus and Freda Faulkner's grand-nephew); **Scott Songer** (friend of Jean Winkle); **Crosley Spelman** (Spelmans' grandson); **Walter Sprenger** (Portmanns' friend); **Swafford family; Britney Jean Teems** (Jean Winkle's granddaughter); **Randy Thaman** (friend of Marie Calhoun); **Richard Thompson** (friend of Marie Calhoun); **Sherman and Mike Waddle; Mary Wagner; Jane Weatherford** (Donald Harris's mother); **Susan Winkle** (Jean Winkle's daughter-in-law).

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

We pray for our armed forces members: **Paul Cordes** (Elinor Schie-man's grandson); **Jared Forst** (Jim and Loretta's grandson); **John Garbrecht** (Carolyn Koehl's nephew); **Beau Glenn** (Karen Koehl's son-in-law); **Kylie Hahn** (Gretta Hahn's granddaughter); **Donald Hosea** (Karen Koehl's son); **Jobeth Ramirez** (friend of Karen Koehl); **Joshua Rodriguez** (friend of Karen Koehl); **Trent Schwegman** (cousin to the Erbecks and Fords); **Dustin Silvey; Mack Thompson** (Freda and Bus Faulkner's grandson).

## October Worship Assistants' Schedule

<b>Month-Long Ministries</b>	Bulletins: Penny Huber and Jean Winkle Greeters: Linda Lawson & Steve Headley Altar Guild: Loretta Forst, Linens; David Hill, Setup; Linda Lawson, Cleanup
<b>October 1</b> 17 Pentecost	Assisting Minister: Terry McDowell Lesson Reader: Kathy Crosby Acolyte: Maggie McDowell
<b>October 8</b> 18 Pentecost	Assisting Minister: Nancy Erbeck Lesson Reader: Carroll Mayhugh Acolyte: Patrick Cathcart Communion Ministers: Elinor Schieman, Ron & Shirley Harbaugh
<b>October 15</b> 19 Pentecost	Assisting Minister: Donald Harris Lesson Reader: Sherry Bronner Acolyte: Olivia Hedges Communion Minister: Carolyn Koehl
<b>October 22</b> 20 Pentecost	Assisting Minister: Leandra Hawkins Lesson Reader: Carroll Mayhugh Acolyte: Katie Sturgill Communion Ministers: Chelsea King, Elinor Schieman
<b>October 29</b> Reformation Sunday	Assisting Minister: Doug Lohmeier Lesson Reader: Kathy Hirt Acolyte: Maggie McDowell Book Bearer: Maci Lawson

St. Paul  
Lutheran Church

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.

## Fall Festival & Costume Party Oct. 21

Please join us October 21 from 6 to 9 pm for our annual Fall Festival and Costume Party for the community. Games, treats, and fun for the kids. Everyone is welcome— please bring friends, neighbors, kids and grandkids, and anyone else who would like to come.



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PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

