



THE MESSENGER

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
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Strasburg, Illinois 62465
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JANUARY 2022

Dear Friends in Christ:

We are wrapping up this month this portion of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount with the last four verses from Matthew 6.

31 Therefore do not be **anxious**, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' 32 For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. 33 But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. 34 "Therefore do not be **anxious** about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be **anxious** for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

I am going to do something a little different this month, I am going to start with the last verse and work in reverse. For the past three months I have been writing about anxiety and worry, Jesus, in only the way that the creator of all the world can do, lays it out very succinctly for us, "do not be anxious." That of course is the short version of this whole portion of the sermon, but it is very convicting as we have talked about in past articles. Notice what Jesus says at the very end of the last verse, "Sufficient for the day is its own trouble." In other words, we are to take one day at a time, since we can't do anything about tomorrow any way. Sounds good doesn't it, but how do we put that into practice, and why does the Lord make such a big deal about it in our Christian walk with Him? That my friends is the point. We are Christians! We are the ones who know what we are to do as well as how to do it. Jesus tells us so right here in verse 33, "But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness..."

The Lord has taken all of the guess work out of our Christian lives, we don't have to sit around and speculate about what might or might not happen tomorrow, what we are to eat and what we are to wear. He has it all under His control! So that is what we do, or rather don't do when it comes to this life, easy right? The answer is no which why Jesus dedicated a whole portion of this teaching to the topic in the first. He knows our human nature, very well. Some of you reading this have probably said more than once throughout the last three months, "but Pastor I'm a worrier, that's just who I am." I get it, and so does the Lord! Think of it this way though, what do we get out of worrying, high blood pressure, anxiety, despair, hopelessness? So, which of these is helpful to your physical, let alone your spiritual life?

Jesus gives us this little tidbit to chew on as well, "For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all." What's His point? His point is what we have been talking about all along here. You are His son or daughter, just as your parents, Lord willing, did the best that they could to take care of you when you were younger, our heavenly Father, true God, knows what you need to live this life. He is calling us to trust in Him to take care of us. Even without acknowledging the Lord as the one supplying all they need the unbelievers also receive rain, sunshine, snow, everything that they need, just like we do. The difference being that we thank Him for all that He does for us.

So, what happens when we are anxious, and we do worry and do the things that Jesus says we shouldn't? Fortunately, we know that He has already taken care of that as well for us. Which is why when we gather before Him, corporately or individually, we get to admit that we have lived like unbelievers, that we have not believed that He is going to take care of me unless I help Him along in the process. Yes, we repent, and we hear the forgiveness that He won for us on the cross. Then once again are able to pray with David, "15 The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food in due season. 16 You open your hand; you satisfy the desire of every living thing. 17 The LORD is righteous in all his ways and kind in all his works. 18 The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth." (Psalm 145)

Gods' Richest Blessings
Pastor Kene Wybrew

Ladies Aid Minutes

The St. Paul's Ladies Aid Society met in the church social hall on December 2nd, 2021 at 10 am. We had a short meeting followed by our annual Christmas party. Pastor gave a devotion from Philippians, chapter one. The devotion was followed by prayer. Marlene, Neva and Judy were our hostesses for the day.

Marlene called the meeting to order by welcoming all members, Pastor and our guests. She thanked Pastor for the devotion. Roll call was answered by 12 members. We were fortunate to have several guests from our congregation, friends of members and several members of the Grace Ladies Aid joining us for the day.

The November minutes were read and approved. Muriel sent twenty one cards to church family and friends in November. Our quarterly magazine was passed out. Charlene gave the treasurer's report and it was approved.

Marlene gave us an update on mites and explained to our guests what mite goals are and who they benefit. Sharon reminded us that mites are due in January.

Linda, Kay and Charlene attended a meeting with the Grace Ladies Aid officers about combining the two ladies aids into one. They gave us the information they collected and possibilities were discussed.

Marlene told us what upcoming events were being held in December.

Marlene thanked Doris Supan for providing the November altar flowers. Karen will have the altar flowers for December. Linda will be our January hostess and Yvonne will provide the January altar flowers.

We closed the meeting with the Doxology and the Lord's Prayer. We sang birthday blessings to Chris .

The meeting was then adjourned to enjoy the rest of the day having our Christmas Party. We thank Marlene, Judy and Neva for all the festive decorations and hard work for a "Country Christmas". A delicious potluck meal was enjoyed by everyone. We had a successful silent auction and a fun gift exchange. We thank our guests for joining us, it was truly a blessing to have so many friends together for a wonderful day..

All ladies are invited to join us at our next meeting on January 6th , 2022 at 1:30pm

Sharon Rincker, secretary



JANUARY

BIRTHDAYS

- 1- Brendon & Renea* Bowers
- 3 Tim Lenz
- 4- Anna Schlechte; Lisa Shelton
- 6- Richard & Cathy Stremming(60);
Tim Beals
- 7-Tim & Delreen Lenz (27)
James* Hortenstine; Imogene Lading;
Whitney Schlechte
- 8-George Glasscock
- 9- Ron & Carolyn Boldt (56)
- 10-Deb & George Glasscock (41);
Linda & Theron* Newell (36);
Lucas Daniels; Rosemary Schlechte;
Ryan Sporleder
- 11-Chris Ashmore
- 12-Mac & Lois Ogle (67)
- 13-Matthew*& Ellen McCoy (4)
- 14-Shelby Beltz; Michael Orr
- 15-Gerald* Susan Hanfland (47);
Derryl Pikes; Dusty Rincker;
Gary Schultz; Tyler* Vonderheide
- 16-Debbie Glasscock; Ken Hagan;
Colby* McCormick
- 17-Tori Daniels; Lori Mathis;
Kathy Pieper; Mark Richards
- 18-Dwane Hartman; Dean Rentfro
- 19-Tim Bence; Doreen Whybrew
- 20-Amy Stremming
- 21-Noah Prosser; Sheree Doehring;
Jacob* York
- 22-Chris Bowers; Lane Hoene;
Colleen Storm
- 23-Muriel Merriman
- 24-Jennifer Buening; Charlie* Logan
- 25-Gerald* Hanfland
- 26-Rick & Jacque Stodden (37);
Owen* Moomaw
- 27-Melba Kircher; Jennifer Logan;
- 28-Jim & Phyllis Weiss (39);
Kathie Harley; Roger Kessler
- 29-Jim & Sharon Rincker (51)
- 30-Maurina Batson; Abram* Moomaw;
Jeremy Pieper



- Tue. Jan 11 Choir Rehearsal 7:00 P.M.
- Sun. Jan. 16 Choir Sings- "By One Spirit"
- Tue. Jan. 18 Choir Rehearsal 7:00 P.M.
- Sun. Jan. 30 Choir Sings- "God of Glory, Lord of Love"

LOCAL LINKS

Pastor Whybrew: chebrev@yahoo.com
 Church: stpaulcms@consolidated.net
 Website: stpaul-strasburg.com
 YouTube: St. Paul's Lutheran Church Strasburg Illinois
 Facebook: St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Articles for Newsletter & Guide

Information for the Guide needs to be in the office by 8:00AM on **Wednesday morning**.
 Articles for the Newsletter should be in the office by the **15th** of the month.



Weekday School will resume January 5th 6:30-7:30 P.M.

Pause for Peace

As your day draws to a close, spend a few moments with God, reflecting on His love and care for you throughout the day. Just dial 644-3124 to hear His message.



You can start using your 2022 Offering envelopes January 2, 2022.

Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the St. Paul's Cemetery Association will be held on January 20, 2022 at 1:00 P.M. in the church social hall. All members of the congregation are invited to attend.



2022 OFFICERS

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| President- | Gerry Schlechte |
| Vice. Pres.- | Jim Weiss |
| Secretary- | Lisa Rincker |
| Financial Secretary- | Daniel Vogel |
| Evangelism- | Charlene Telgmann |
| Head Usher- | Dalton Storm |
| Elder- | Mark Luce |
| Trustee- | Don Telgmann |
| Bd of Education- | Diane Jack |
| S.S. Supt. | Karen Kull |

**Installation of Officers
January 2 during the 8:30 AM Service**

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January Meeting The January LYF meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 5th at Trinity, 7:30 P.M. Following the meeting, members will be preparing for the soup luncheon.

LYF Soup Luncheon The joint LYF of Grace, St. Paul's and Trinity will be hosting a Soup Luncheon on Sunday, January 9 at Trinity Lutheran Church. The youth will be serving homemade chili and chicken noodle soup, hot dogs, potato chips and desserts from 11 A.M. until 1 P.M. Dine-in and To-go available! Proceeds from your freewill donations will go towards local youth group activities and trips. We appreciate your support and hope to see you after church on the 9th!



Thank You Thank you for the door offering. My family will be able to use it for my girl's education. Emily Homann & family

Thank You The church looks amazing thanks to our Christmas decorating helpers- The McCormick family, Mark & Melissa Luce, Sarah Luce, Mark Kull family, Gary & Johnna Schultz, Jacob Schultz, Mike Rincker family, Otto & Lisa Rincker, and Pastor Whybrew. You all did a fantastic job!

Thank You Thank you to all the children, teachers and volunteers who helped with the Christmas Eve program. Specials thanks to co-directors Alicia Kessler and Mary Tabbert and helpers Susie Allen, Dee Dee Batson, Courtney Wittenberg and Rachel Kessler. Thank you to Gary Wirth and Mike Pfeiffer for their assistance with the sound system and setup. Thank you to the Board of Education for supplying the sacks of candy for the children. Thank you to Mariah & Jesse Williams for printing the t-shirts for the children and to Dianna Spannagel, Dawn Schlechte, Doreen Whybrew, Dee Batson, Roger Kull and Karen Kull for helping wrap the shirts. We appreciate you sharing your time and talents to spread God's Word.

Your 2021 Thanksgiving Offering in the amount of \$3,210.00 went to support the following charities:

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| Lutheran Care Center (20%) | \$642.00 |
| Lutheran Hour Ministries (15%) | \$481.50 |
| LWML Mites (15%) | \$481.50 |
| KFUO Radio (10%) | \$321.00 |
| Bethesda (10%) | \$321.00 |
| LCMS World Relief (10%) | \$321.00 |
| Food for the Poor (10%) | \$321.00 |
| Dakota Ranch (10%) | \$321.00 |

2021 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

All members who use offering envelopes will receive a 2021 contribution statement shortly after the first of the year. Any questions about the statement can be directed to the church office.

Seminary Student News: We regret that seminary student Jacob Barber will be withdrawing from the seminary during the spring semester, and we pray that he will be able to return in the fall. Your prayers for Jacob would be appreciated.

Dear siblings in Christ at St. Paul's

First and foremost, thank you, thank you, thank you. The financial gift, your prayers, and all the support which you sent to me this fall semester have been a great boon. This all helped immensely during a semester which has been challenging, to say the least.

In my introduction to all of you, I noted some of the many things which have kept me busy this semester. I've thoroughly enjoyed learning to read theological German in preparation for further graduate work, though I'd probably struggle to read a newspaper and certainly couldn't understand a spoken conversation (we focused primarily on theological vocabulary). In addition to German, I've taken the full course load that is typical for the Fall of your second year—Torah, Prophets, Systematics I, Worship and the Word, and Teaching the Faith. One of my favorites of these was Torah with one of our newest professors, Dr. Kevin Golden. I first met him just over a year ago while he was pastor at a nearby church. A year later, he still remembered my name! That kind of care and attention to detail absolutely inspires us students to devote ourselves to the learning task at hand.

My schedule has been full outside of classes, as well, especially on Sunday mornings. I serve a church here in St. Louis as part of my Residential Field Education (Hope Lutheran, St. Louis). On a typical Sunday morning there, I help the pastor throughout the Divine Service by doing the readings, chanting, and assisting with the distribution of the Lord's Supper. Sunday School and Adult Bible Class come after the service (with coffee and donuts, of course), which I occasionally help teach. That's one church. I serve in the choir and as violinist at a different church, Concordia Kirkwood, about 20 minutes' drive from Hope. That normally involves singing and playing for the first half of the early service, up to the sermon, then quietly leaving and driving back to Hope for my duties there. With all of this going on, Sunday mornings never fail to wake me up and show me the many gifts our good Lord has given us.

And now to return to some of the challenges I mentioned earlier. Throughout the semester, in part due to being *too* busy (if there is such a thing), some personal matters have grown to be intrusive enough that I can no longer ignore them. Because of this, I am taking a leave of absence for the spring semester to find some much-needed rest and healing. With God's good grace, I will return to classes in the Fall, better situated to learn to serve God's wondrous people in the Church. I again thank you all for the support you have given me (both in finance and in prayers and cards). I pray God's blessings on you all.

In Christ,

Jacob Barber

Join us for LYF's



Soup Luncheon



JANUARY 9, 2022

•11 AM-1 PM•

**TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
STEWARDSON, IL**

MENU:

Chili and Chicken Noodle Soup,
Hot Dogs, Potato Chips,
Desserts and Beverages

Free Will Donations Accepted

Proceeds will benefit the Grace/St. Paul/Trinity LYF
in preparation for their various trips and activities.

St. Paul's Weekday School Calendar 2021-22

AUGUST 2021

Wed., 25 6:00-6:30 p.m. Registration
6:30-7:30 p.m. WDS

SEPTEMBER

Wed., 1 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Wed., 8 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Wed., 15 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Wed., 22 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Wed., 29 6:30-7:30 p.m.

OCTOBER

Wed., 6 6:30-8 p.m. (Music 7:30-8)

Wed., 13 6:30-8 p.m. (Music 7:30-8)

Wed., 20 6:30-8 p.m. (Music 7:30-8)

Wed., 27 6:30-8 p.m. (Music 7:30-8)

NOVEMBER

Wed., 3 6:30-8 p.m. (Music 7:30-8)

Sun., 7 8:30 a.m. WDS children sing

Wed., 10 6:30-8 p.m. (Music 7:30-8)

Wed., 17 6:30-8 p.m. (Music 7:30-8)

Tue., 23 6:30-8 p.m. (Music 7:30-8)

No Class on Wed., Nov 24

DECEMBER

Wed., 1 6:30-8:00 p.m. Advent & WDS*

Wed., 8 6:30-8:00 p.m. Advent & WDS*

Wed., 15 6:30-8:00 p.m. Advent & WDS*

Tue., 21 6-8 p.m. Christmas practice

Fri., 24 6:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Program

JANUARY 2022

Wed., 5 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Wed., 12 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Wed., 19 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Wed., 26 6:30-7:30 p.m.

FEBRUARY

Wed., 2 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Wed., 9 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Wed., 16 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Wed., 23 6:30-7:30 p.m.

MARCH

Wed., 2 6:30-8 p.m. Lent & WDS

Wed., 9 6:30-8 p.m. Lent & WDS

Wed., 16 6:30-8 p.m. Lent & WDS

Wed., 23 6:30-8 p.m. Lent & WDS

Wed., 30 6:30-8 p.m. Lent & WDS

APRIL

Wed., 6 6:30-8 p.m. Lent & WDS

Wed., 13 6:30-8 p.m.+

Wed., 20 6:30-8 p.m.+

Sun., 24 8:30 a.m. Confirmation (8th grade)

Wed., 27 6:30-8 p.m. Musicfest rehearsal

MAY

Sun., 1 9:30 a.m. Musicfest Program in place of Sunday School)

Wed., 4 6:30-7:30 p.m. WDS Picnic

*Christmas practice 7-8 p.m.

+ Musicfest Practice 7:30-8 p.m.