



THE MESSENGER



St. Paul's Lutheran Church
511 S. Walnut
Strasburg, Illinois 62465
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NOVEMBER 2021

Dear Friends in Christ:

Continuing our look at Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, specifically Matthew 6:25-34, focusing on the word anxious in the text. Jesus moves beyond the stuff of this life to our personal life in this portion of verse 27

*And which of you by being **anxious** can add a single hour to his span of life?*

This passage moves us to a truth that man has struggled with forever. Do we have an allotted time on this earth? We know that we don't have an expiration date printed on us anywhere. Yet, we do know that we are finite beings, that there will be a day, some day, when we will not be a resident of this earth any longer. This is what causes us to spend billions of dollars each year thinking that we are going to beat death.

Think about this verse for a minute or two. For Jesus to even ask the question we should quickly realize that there is only one answer. It is all based upon some very simple truths that we humans try to ignore. Who has given us life? Who sustains this life? Who takes this life? These questions cause us to see that I had nothing to do with it. I didn't bring myself into existence, I can do what I can to take care of it, that is called good stewardship with what God has given, but is our life our own? The answer, whether we like it or not is no. Now for a believer that can still be a struggle which is why when we pray, we ask the Lord to lead, guide, direct, protect, etc.

So today is today and tomorrow is tomorrow, and who has the control of my life? Certainly not fate, or chance, or circumstance. But God does. Whether I am here tomorrow or not I have no idea nor can I change it if it is His time for my death. In all of this though we know that we are called to live. Paul writes in Romans 14:7-8 **7 For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. 8 For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's.** I am here today, to serve the Lord and my neighbor as He has called me to do. Even though we struggle with even that.

See the Lord knows that all this stems from the same problem. Adam and Eve's eyes were opened, and they knew good and evil, before that they didn't have a care in the world. They did not sow they merely received. They did not know death; all of creation ate the plants the Lord had given as we see in Genesis 1, **"²⁹ And God said, "Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food. ³⁰ And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so.**" Pure ignorant bliss, that is not a bad thing, for this was how they were created. But because of the fall, man now occupies himself with these concerns and questions that were never part of God's original creation. Not that He didn't know they would be coming which is why He sent Jesus.

So, the answer to the question, do we have an allotted time on this earth? The answer would have to be yes. The reason for the answer would also have to be because of sin though, since it is because of sin that man must die. When? No one knows nor can know. So, we live our lives today, giving thanks to Almighty God and serving Him as He has called us, and leaving our lives in His hands because being anxious causes us nothing but grief.

God's richest blessings always, in Christ
Pastor Kene Whybrew

Ladies Aid Minutes

The St Paul's Ladies Aid Society met in the church social hall on October 7th, 2021 at 1:30 pm. Pastor Whybrew gave a devotion followed by prayer. Chris gave a devotion on mites. Judy was our hostess for the day.

Marlene called the meeting to order by welcoming all members and pastor. Roll call was answered ten members. Muriel reported that she sent six cards to church family and friends in September. Charlene read the treasurer's report and it was approved.

We received thank-you cards from Donna Pfeiffer for her birthday and John and Judy for their anniversary. Sharon and Marlene gave us an update on mite giving.

In old business, Marlene gave us an update on supplies still needed for the kitchen. She also reported on the Zone Rally on September 22nd. It was well attended and they had a successful in-gathering for Effingham schools. We also discussed the results of our LWML Sunday. We also discussed the idea of "mail box members", for those who cannot attend meetings.

In new business, we will be holding officer elections in November for president and secretary.

Marlene reported on upcoming events in October in the church.

We thanked Lisa Rincker for providing the September altar flowers and Judy for being our October hostess and providing beautiful fall decorations and delicious refreshments. The October altar flowers will be provided by Virginia Vogel and our November hostess will be Rose Schlechte.

The meeting was closed with the Doxology, the Lord's Prayer and the table prayer. We did not have any October birthdays or anniversaries.

All ladies are invited to attend our next meeting in November 4th at 1:30 pm.

Sharon Rincker, secretary



ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 - Lisa Rincker
 - 2 - Rick Wallace; Cameron Moomaw
 - 3 - Megan Cress; Jack Stremming;
Mark & Debra Richards(48)
 - 5 - Gary Rincker
 - 6 - Doug Rincker
 - 7- Daniel & Sarah Vogel (1)
 - 8 -Tessa* Wirth
 - 9 - Ragen Moomaw
 - 10- Mike Pfeiffer; Claire & Cody Logue (9)
 - 11- Bob Schlechte; John Wittenberg;
Jacob* Helmuth
 - 13 - Dennis & Kenna Wirth (45)
 - 14 - Rick Allen; Chris Kramer; Barry
Wittenberg
 - 15 - Sheryl Vonderheide
 - 16 - Dean Schultz; Ella Storm
 - 17 - Marilyn Kull; Zachary Rincker; Corbyn
Reel*
 - 19 - Travis & Laura Dollarhide(38)
 - 20 - Heath McCormick; Gary Sporleder;
Otto & Lisa Rincker(39)
 - 22 - Josh Layton
 - 23 - Mary London; Zach & Stacey
Rincker(2)
 - 25 - Allison Manhart
 - 26 - Jacob McIlwain; Scott & Lori Pieper(41)
 - 27 - Noel Manhart
 - 29 - Lou Camilotto*; Travis Dollarhide;
Connie Wirth; Brittney Gilbert
 - 30 - Lauren Wetherell; Dusty & Claudia*
Rincker(8); Derek & Jessica Bloemer(2)
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This year's Cantata will be Sunday, December 12, 7:00 PM at Trinity Lutheran Church, Stewardson, IL. Rehearsal dates are as follows:

- Mon. Nov. 1 7:00PM Cantata Practice
- Sun. Nov. 7 5:00PM Cantata Practice
- Fri. Nov. 19 7:00PM Cantata Practice
- Sun. Nov. 28 5:00PM Cantat Practice
- Mon. Dec. 6 7:00PM Cantata Practice
- Sat. Dec. 11 TBA



Pastor Whybrew: chebrev@yahoo.com
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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.



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.



If you know of anyone needing prayer because of an accident, sudden onset of illness, or critical illness, please call **Shirley Stremming at 821-3038**. If you wish to volunteer to be a member of the prayer chain, let Shirley know. James 5:16.... **"and pray for one another that you may be healed."**

Seminary Student Address

Sem. Jacob Barber
 6454 Wise Ave.
 St. Louis, Mo. 63139

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Voter's Meeting

There will be a Voter's Meeting, November 14th at 1:30PM



Thank You Thank you for the hot meal along with the frozen meals that we received as we welcomed our son Kane into our family. It was very much appreciated. The meals were delicious! Thanks again for taking the time to think of our family. Dusty, Claudia, Kingston & Kane Rincker

Thank you Thanks to the church family, Ladies Aid, family, friends and relation for the beautiful cards and well wishes. God bless you. Melba Storm

Thank you to the cradle roll families who made delicious food for our family. It was nice to have after the birth of our daughter. We greatly appreciate all of the cards, gifts, food and cookies. The Laytons

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Baptism

Baptism Receiving the Sacrament of Holy Baptism on Monday, October 4 was Paige Ripa Layton. Paige is the daughter of Josh & Jenna Layton. Sponsors were Kennedy Kull, Zaida Wascher and Becca Layton. Grandparents are Gary & Karen Kull and Steve & Jill Layton. We welcome Paige in the kingdom of God and pray for God's blessings on her and her family.

Baptism Receiving the Sacrament of Baptism this morning is Charlee Ruth Rincker. Charlee is the daughter of Zach and Stacey Rincker. Charlee's sponsors are Austin Rincker and Kelly Toppen. Grandparents are Doug & Marla Rincker and Jerry & Kim Lorenz. We welcome Charlee in the kingdom of God and pray for God's blessings on her and her family.

Baptism Receiving the Sacrament of Baptism this morning is Blake Florence Wirth. Blake is the daughter of Tyler and Jennifer Wirth. Blake's sponsors are Daniel Helm and Jessica Helm. Grandparents are Ron & Karen Wirth and Randy & Julie Helm. We welcome Blake in the kingdom of God and pray for God's blessings on her and her family.

Congratulations Derek and Jessica (Telgmann) Bloemer on the birth of their son, Hudson Gene Bloemer. Hudson was born September 30, 2021 at 6:45 A.M. and he weighed 8lbs 13oz and was 20 in. long. Grandparents are Don & Kim Telgmann and Dan & Cindy Bloemer. God's richest blessings.

Congratulations Levi and Hannah Sudkamp on the birth of their daughter, Andie Rae Sudkamp, born on October 12, 2021. Grandparents are Steve & Jill Layton and Steve & Carol Sudkamp. Blessings to the family!

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Operation Christmas Child

I am an empty shoebox rescued from your closet or gotten from the narthex at church and destined to bring joy to a needy child. But I need your help. Please begin my journey with prayer for the child who will receive me. Will I go to a boy or girl? What age? You decide.

Next, fill me with love and goodies, both fun and practical: crayons, pencil, paper, small toys, socks, underwear, toothbrush, soap, washcloth, shoes, clothes, and so on. If you include a picture of your family and your address, my child may write to you.

Now that I am packed, take me to your church by November 14. I will be taken to Effingham where I will join other shoe boxes that will be shipped to a regional center. A Bible study will be added and then we will be shipped to our destinations around the world. You may not get to see your child's face, but believe me it will beam a radiant smile and and a shout for joy, all because you started me on my journey with love and prayer.

Enclosed in this newsletter is a pamphlet that explains more about the shoe boxes. If you can't prepare a box perhaps you can donate money for postage to ship the boxes. Just put your donation in a designated envelope in the offering and mark it for the shoe box project.

If you would like to help pack boxes, join us on Wednesday, November 17 at 6:30 p.m. in the social hall. May God bless you for your concern and love for others.



Santa Brigade Breakfast & Market

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13

PANCAKE & SAUSAGE BREAKFAST 6-11 A.M.

CHRISTMAS MARKET 7-11 A.M.

Contact MaRanda McClain for booth space 217.343.7879

**St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Social Hall & Gym**



**111 S. Walnut St.
Strasburg**



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