



St. Paul Dove

Saint Paul Evangelical
Lutheran Church
(The Lutheran Church -
Missouri Synod)
31 Washington Avenue
Batavia, NY 14020

MAY 2017

A Letter From Pastor Werk



Dear members and friends of St. Paul Lutheran Church and School,

It is spring, and as we watch all the flowers growing and blossoming it brings a smile to our face and joy to our hearts and minds. It is also a good time to think about the growth that Jesus wants to see in our lives as His disciples. When we grow, Jesus is pleased. Making and growing disciples is at the very heart of our existence as a family of believers. Making disciples is the reason that the church exists. What was Jesus' final commission to His followers? "Go and make disciples of all nations." Then Jesus gave some directions about how to make disciples. But the heart and core of the mission He left us is, "make disciples."

Jesus wants to see us growing stronger in our faith and in our lives lived for Him. He wants us to follow Him more faithfully. He wants us to grow to be like Him, following His example. For that to happen, we need to not only study God's Word, we need to work together to learn how to put it into practice each day in our lives. That is the ongoing challenge for us. Learning how to live consistently to reflect Jesus in everything we say and do and think. That is the "Teaching them to obey everything I have commanded" part of Jesus' commission to us. He wants us not only to teach but to show one another how to obey His Word, living it out in our lives.

That growth is not easy. Our sinfulness gets in the way all the time. We get lazy and don't spend time in reading and studying God's Word. We get selfish and put ourselves and our interests and desires before others. It is hard to deny ourselves as Jesus calls us to do. *Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. Matthew 16:24 (NIV)*

We tend to be afraid that if we follow Jesus our lives will be very limited. Nothing could be further from the truth. Jesus tells us that if we grab onto His teaching and hold it close to our hearts we will not only increase in knowledge, but we will experience freedom in our lives as well.

31 To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. 32 Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." John 8:31-32 (NIV)

And the freedom of that new life in Jesus will be characterized by love. Disciples are people who love others. Disciples take the love that Jesus has shown to them and turn around and love the people around them in the same way. This love is a selfless, generous, endless love. Growing in loving others like this is a beautiful thing to behold in the life of a disciple.

34 "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. 35 By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." John 13:34-35 (NIV)

Our Savior Jesus desires and expects that we, His disciples, will grow and mature in our faith and in the way we live our lives for Him. Jesus wants us to mature as disciples. He wants us to mature so much we reach the full measure of all that Jesus is Himself. He wants us to grow up into being like Him. And it all happens as we, filled with His love, get busy doing the work He has called us to do.

12 so that the body of Christ may be built up 13 until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. ----- 15 we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ. 16 From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work. Ephesians 4:12 ff. (NIV)

My prayer is that this Spring will be a beautiful time of growth and blossoming for each of us disciples of Jesus. May our devotion to His Word continue to transform our lives so that our world cannot help but run into people who overflow with the love and grace of Christ in all they do and say.

But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen. 2 Peter 3:18 (NIV)

We are a family of disciples using every gift that Jesus gives us to take the heart of Jesus to the heart of our community and to bring our community to Jesus.

Pastor Allen Werk

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Jason Clark, 2nd & 3rd
Jan Shetler, K & 1st
Deb Porter, Pre-K 3yr & 4yr
Theresa Gorecki, Spanish
Diane Cain, Speech Therapist
Tess Garland, School Nurse
Erin Dawson, Librarian

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A MEMORIAL DAY PRAYER

With grateful hearts on this Memorial Day, we thank You, Lord, for the men and women who gave their lives in service of our country. They died honorably, protecting the life and liberty of so many others. Lord, make us appreciative of the blessings we enjoy as Americans, and of the lives which were given that we might live in peace in this land.

Our Lord Jesus once said, "Greater love has no man than that he lay down his life for his friends". May we see in the soldier who lays down his life in battle, a reminder of our Savior who laid down His life at the cross.

We also thank You this day for our men and women in uniform who so selflessly serve God and country. Be with them deployed overseas, in armed conflict or wherever their duties carry them. Grant them courage in battle, compassion on the wounded, and strength in your grace to endure unto victory. Be with the family of each serviceman or woman who anxiously awaits their return, with the promise that You are with us even unto the end of the world.

We pray for all who are in positions of leadership and great responsibility governing over the affairs of our nation. Grant them wisdom from above as they seek to administer justice and mercy rightfully in the sacred halls of government. Grant us Your grace as a nation to be a beacon of hope and to establish a just and noble relationship with all other nations in the world.

Heavenly Father, how can we ever thank you enough for your enduring grace that sustains our life in trouble, comforts our souls in distress and shelters us from disaster. Through the presence of Your Son Jesus, our resurrected Lord and Savior, we remain strong, and through Your Word we will endure unto the end. In a world filled with conflicts and wars, He alone is our source of true and lasting peace. Amen.



FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR:

Flowers can be purchased in honor of a milestone occasion (Anniversary or Birthday) or in memory of a loved one to be placed on the altar at any Sunday Service. Please complete the Altar Flower Form located in the lobby. Bring the form and \$20 to the Church Office (2) weeks prior to the date.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

May the Lord bless you as you celebrate your birthday, and may His blessing follow you through the coming year!



LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES

MAY 2017

May 7—"The Abundant Life of Grace"

Don't leave God's grace behind! We are still sheep who need the Good Shepherd. (John 10:1-10)

May 14—"To Know God, Look to Jesus"

To be saved by Jesus Christ is not religion--it is reliance upon God's grace, God's doing, and God's amazing love for you. (John 14:1-14)

May 21—"Comfort in the Spirit for Our Spirits"

To be the people God created us to be, we must be connected to His power, to His Word, by His Spirit. (John 14:15-21)

May 28—"The Best of Things in the Worst of Times"

As another generation comes along that knows not the Lord or what He has done, God enables His people to do the best of things in the worst of times. (Philippians 1:27)

Smart, Michelle	5/1	Scroger, Roberta	5/19
Hofert, Sandra	5/3	Clark, Judy	5/20
Saluste, Corinne	5/3	Burch, Shelby	5/22
Corcoran, Andrew	5/6	Kassman, Kathy	5/22
Pangrazio, Megan	5/6	Hinz, Kyle	5/24
Pangrazio, MARRISA	5/7	Whitcombe, Pamela	5/24
Bezon, Elaine	5/8	Allein, Alyssa	5/25
Culling, Bruce	5/8	Kabel, Richard	5/25
Galliford Jr., George	5/8	Schermerhorn, Zachary	5/26
Scroger, Rebecca	5/8	Weiler, Ronald	5/26
Goebert, Peyton	5/11	Thom, Isabella	5/27
Bell, Milda	5/12	Yunker, Donald	5/27
Briggs, Katherine	5/13	Walters, Nicolas	5/28
Snell, Linda	5/13	Starkweather, Bonnie	5/29
Donahue, Patrick	5/15	Pehrson, Amber	5/30
Samuelson, Kim	5/19	Pehrson, Don	5/30
		Saluste, Erik	5/30



SENIOR CHOIR REHEARSALS

By Kathy White, Sr. Choir Director

Please consider joining the Sr. Choir. We meet every Sunday from 10:20 to 10:50 a.m. upstairs in the organ loft.

ER SINGERS REHEARSALS

By Ann Werk, ER Singers Director

ER Singers will rehearse on May 7, 21 at 5 p.m.

NOONTIME BIBLE STUDY

By Jackie Blank, Bible Study Leader

We have a guest Bible study leader this month! Come and share with us as we study the topic "Engage! Encourage! Equip! Enjoy!" on Tuesday, May 2. We will work together on the Bible study found on pages 20-21 in the spring LWML Quarterly. This study will consider our relationship with others in our life and the role that our Christian faith should take. Join us in the library at noon. You are welcome to bring your lunch and eat before or during the study. If you need a copy of the study, please let me know and I will get one to you. All are welcome to join us. Jackie Blank (jblank68@rochester.rr.com or 739-0624.)

BELL CHOIR REHEARSALS

By Linda Eick, Bell Choir Director

Bell Choir will meet on May 16, 23, and 30 at 6:30 pm. We will be playing on June 4.

QUILTERS

The quilters completed their season on April 25 and celebrated together with a lunch. We had a wonderful season with some new workers and many longtime workers. Quilts were delivered on April 26 to Hilton where they were loaded on a LWR truck and taken to the warehouse in Maryland.

We are always looking for donations! This summer you can help us by looking at yard sales, rummage sales, and estate sales where good items often are sold inexpensively. Would you be willing to spend a dollar or two and donate these treasures to the quilters? This will help us be ready to start again in September.

CLEAN donations are always appreciated and may be left at any time downstairs in the quilter's room to the left of the stage. We especially can use items for fillers to make the quilts warm. Some suggested donations would include blankets, mattress pads, comforters and other warm materials. They do not have to be in good shape as they will be covered with a top and bottom.



**SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL
VOTER'S MEETING**

A meeting will be held on Wed, May 3 at 7p.m. in Memorial Hall regarding applying for a loan to do necessary roof replacements.

LADIES NIGHT OUT

By Deb Porter

We will be meeting on Thursday, May 4. 6:30-8pm in Memorial Hall. Come make a Patriotic Banner. Please bring a hot glue gun (if you have one), scissors and \$5.00 to help cover the cost of supplies. Please sign up in lobby. Questions? See Deb Porter.

VACATION BIBLE STUDY

By Cindy Canale, VBS Coordinator

It's time to start planning for VBS! Vacation Bible School is Monday July 10th - Friday July 14th from 9:00 - 11:00. I am looking for volunteers to make it a success this year! We need teachers, snack volunteers, people to help out with games, and volunteers for crafts.

There will be a sign up sheet in the narthex, or you can email me at jcan@bluefrog.com, or call or text at 716-560-1017. Looking forward to a great week!

ST. PAUL LITERATURE FAIR



Join us on May 2 at 6:30 pm. Come see our student's projects and talk to them about what they have been reading. Awards will be given out at 6:45 pm.

- May 2**—Literature Fair 6:30 pm
- May 3**—Field trip—Grades 2-5
- May 5**—Spring Program & Bake Sale 6:30 pm
- May 26-29**—Memorial Day Vacation—NO SCHOOL
- Jun 2**—Field Day
- Jun 9**—Field Trip—Grades 4-5
- Jun 12**—Family Field Trip
- Jun 14**—Hop-a-thon
- Jun 16**—Last Day for Preschool
- Jun 19**—Last Day for Elementary—Noon Dismissal
- Jun 19**—Awards & Graduation Program 6:30 pm



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Lutheran Women in Mission Ministry

LWML NEWS

by Sharon Wolff, President

Our April meeting was well attended with 19-20 in attendance! Praise God for a wonderful night of conversation, prayer, devotion, and business! We enjoyed refreshments provided by Joanna, and a great devotion led by Ann. A brief business meeting followed. The quilters last work day was April 25th. They packed the remainder of quilts to be delivered that week to the location. From there they will be taken to third world countries through Lutheran World Relief. They will resume quilting in September. This year a number of women assembled 200 quilts. Praise God for this time of creativity, talent, togetherness, and relationship building, not to mention mission work and service to others. They closed their time with a luncheon together.

Ladies Night Out is May 4th...a fun craft is planned.

Tues May 2nd there will be bible study at Noon led by Wilma Meyer. Come one come all, bring a bag lunch and join us in the library with your quarterly magazine and favorite bible.

Mark your calendars for September 30th. The Fall ZONE gathering will be here at St. Paul's beginning at 9am. The Bread Man from Brockport will be the guest speaker!

Fall retreat at Camp Pioneer is September 15-17th and the hilarious Jan Muck is the guest speaker! You will not want to miss this. Registration is \$15. You don't have to spend the entire weekend. Think and pray about coming for the day on Saturday to absorb the teachings of Jan and the fellowship of other LWMLer's in the District. Forms are on the bulletin board. Gather some day time goers, car pool and come on out to a beautiful GEM in Lake Erie for some spiritual food and fun.

We closed our evening with prayers and the LWML pledge.

Our next gathering is May 16th at 7pm in Memorial Hall. The ingathering for that meeting is Hershey bars, graham crackers, large marshmallows (s'mores ingredients for Camp Pioneer) See you all there!!!

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Bible class at Noon on May 2 with Wilma Meyer in the Library, bag lunch
- Ladies Night Out—May 4, Patriotic Banners (Bring glue gun, if have one, \$5 & scissors).
- National Convention Albuquerque, NM June 22-25
- ZONE Summer picnic August 23 Camp Pioneer 3-7, 6pm potluck
- Fall Retreat Camp Pioneer September 15-17
- ZONE Fall event BREAD MAN September 30, St. Luke Lutheran

May 16—7:00 pm

LWML Meeting

“Praying our Doubt”

Gifts of Love: S'mores Ingredients for Camp Pioneer (Hershey bars, graham crackers, large marshmallows)

Refreshments provided by:
Barb Churchill and Betty Huntley

LWML OFFICERS

President—Sharon Wolff

Vice President—Jean Berry

Secretary—Deb Porter

Treasurer—Evelynn Thielemann

Christian Growth—Ann Werk

Refreshment Chairwomen—Cheryl Schrader & Flo Williams

SERVING IN MAY—2017

GREETERS

- 7 E— Dick & Barb Cole
L— Weicher Family
14 E— Ron & Diane Burroughs
L— Don & Audrey Pehrson
21 E— Marian Massaro
L— Anna Bobo
28 E— Barbara Lexer
L— Dave & Ruth Rigerman

LAY READERS

- 7 E— John Marchese
L— Brenda Seward
14 E— Sue Bobo
L— Joanna Weicher
21 E— Deb Fischer
L— Lynn Eick
28 E— Nancy Dieterle
L— Darlene Hinz

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

- 7 Grefrath/Eick
14 Wolff/Warner
21 Canale/Bell
28 Eick/Van Nest

COUNTING TEAMS

- 7 Eick/M. Seward
14 Thielemann/M. Seward
21 Gamin/M. Seward
28 B. Seward/M. Seward

ACOLYTES

- 7 E— Dylan Maier
L— Nathan Canale
14 E— Madeline Gogolack
L— Chris Klafehn
21 E— Jacob Coolbaugh
L— Gabe Weicher
28 E— Maggie DeMare
L— Henry Rigerman

ALTAR CARE

Altar Care: Barb Cole & Wilma Meyer

Communion Ware:

May 7 & 21: Audra Klein, Hannah & Emily Klein

May 14 & 28: Elsie Dool & Linda Snell

Altar Colors:

Month of May: White

USHERS

- 7 E— TEAM 1
L— TEAM 6
14 E— TEAM 3
L— TEAM 2
21 E— TEAM 5
L— TEAM 4
28 E— TEAM 7
L— TEAM 6

May-17

St. Paul Lutheran Church & School Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	9:30am - School Chapel 7pm - Sun School Teacher's Meeting	12pm - Bible Study 6:30pm - Literature Fair	Field Trip Grd 2-5 Ganondagon 7pm - Congregational Voter's Meeting	6:30pm - Ladies Night Out	6:30pm - School Spring Program & Bake Sale	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
8:30am - Contemporary Worship 9:45am - Sun School & Bible Class 10:20am - Sr. Choir Practice 11:00am - Traditional Worship - LS 5:00pm - ER Singers	9:30am - School Chapel	6:45pm - School Board Meeting	9:30am - Circuit Pastor's Meeting-Pilgrim Lutheran	7pm - Ministry Team Mtg		
	TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK					
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
8:30am - Contemporary Worship - LS 9:45am - Sunday School & Bible Class 10:20am - Sr. Choir Practice 11:00am - Traditional Worship	9:30am - School Chapel	6:30pm - Bell Choir 7pm-LWML Meeting	7pm - Admin Team Mtg			1pm - Gow Wedding
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
8:30am - Contemporary Worship 9:45am - Sun School & Bible Class 10:20am - Sr. Choir Practice 11:00am - Traditional Worship - LS 5:00pm - ER Singers	9:30am - School Chapel	6:30pm - Bell Choir			Memorial Day Break NO SCHOOL	10:30am - State St. Ministry
28	29	30	31			
8:30am - Contemporary Worship - LS 9:45am - Sunday School & Bible Class 10:20am - Sr. Choir Practice 11:00am - Traditional Worship	Memorial Day NO SCHOOL Office Closed	6:30pm - Bell Choir				