



The Messenger

*"Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message,
and the message is heard through the word of Christ."
(Romans 10:17)*

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church and School

Vol. 94, No. 6

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June, 2019

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Temporary Residents

"Dear friends, I urge you, as foreigners and exiles, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your soul. Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us." – 1 Peter 2:11-12

To say that summer is a welcome sight is an understatement. After a long and cloudy winter, we can't wait for the warmth and light that summer brings. It's pleasant and peaceful in its one way. It may even seem more cheerful. It's a perfect time to take a vacation.

So as you do, take to heart the Apostle Peter's words that you are a *foreigner* and *exile* in this world. Just as your vacation destination might be to a place that makes you an "outsider," so is your life in this world. You know this because the world is waging war against your very soul. Its permanent residents want to convince you that this world is your permanent residence. They do so using deceptive, convincing words. "Live like us," they say. "It's the loving thing to do. It's ok. It's logical. Life is all about the here and now. Make a name for yourself. Build up wealth in this world. Be one of us."

Yet we know that Christ came into this world to save us from such hollow, fleeting pleasures. He redeemed us, body and soul, from all our sins with his holy, precious blood. Having been born under the law, he lived the selfless life we are incapable of living. Then he credited his perfect life to our account while taking our sins upon himself (Isaiah 53:5,6). Because of him, our faith and hope are in God. Now we are exiles and foreigners in this world. Temporary residents who have the seal of baptism certifying we are God's redeemed children. Now we eagerly await Christ to bring us to our true home.

With this in mind, keep away from the temptations this world lays before you. Live as children of God according to the clear words of love contained in the 10 commandments. Commit them to memory. They are how you show thanks to your Savior. They are his will for you. They are how you love your neighbor.

Doing so will certainly draw attention from the world. Even to the point that unbelievers will accuse us of unloving behaviors. But don't be surprised by this. Such a response is normal. They don't understand that which is foreign to their selfish view of love. Yet true love overrides false beliefs every time. As Jesus said, "wisdom is proved right by her deeds" (Matthew 11:19). In other words, your actions done according to the 10 commandments will always prevail over what is falsely called "love," because they come from God who is wise.

The hope is that when unbelievers look at your godly living, they may be won over by the attractiveness of God's love. Curious, they may ask you why you're different. Why you don't do what they do? Take advantage of such moments to evangelize and confess your faith in Jesus. Our hope is that they might also be born again through the living and enduring word of God and glorify him on the day he visits us.

So then, wherever you go this summer, bring your bible with you. Read it when on vacation. Read it on your deck, your porch, in your air-conditioned house in order to be filled with Christ's rest. Don't take a vacation *from* God's Word this summer. Take a vacation *to* God's Word. It will remind you that Christ is coming back for us and will bring us to a place where we are no longer foreigners who are attacked for godly living. We will be welcomed. We will be home. We will be at peace forever.

– Pastor Schrimpf

New Vicar

Greetings, my brothers and sisters in Christ!

My name is Matthew Steinfeldt, and I am blessed to say that I have been assigned as a vicar to your congregation, beginning in August. I am from Dakota, MN, a small town that sits just beside the Mississippi River. I graduated from Luther High School in Onalaska, WI in 2011. I attended Winona State University in Winona, MN for two years, taking general education classes. In 2013, I transferred to MLC and graduated in 2017. During my time there, I had the wonderful privilege of meeting my fiancée Brittany Boyd, who is from Chesaning, MI and graduated from MLC just this year. We have been engaged for almost two years now, and we will be married on June 22. Brittany and I look forward to meeting you all very soon! The Lord has truly blessed me with this opportunity to learn as I serve the saints at St. Paul's in Columbus, OH. As the Lord wills, Brittany and I will see you all quite soon. God be with you. Faith, Hope, and Love,
Matthew J. Steinfeldt



Thank You

Words cannot express the thankfulness I have for all of you in our time of need following Joe's stroke. The love and care so many of you have shown us through your prayers, hugs, cards, visits, meals, gift cards, coffee delivery, encouraging texts and social media posts, and reading materials to pass the long hours at the hospital: all are deeply appreciated. We truly have a wonderful fellowship of believers at St. Paul's - never doubt that. God has

richly blessed our congregation with an extraordinarily caring church family which goes above and beyond at reaching out to our brothers and sisters in crisis. Joe and I are looking forward to being in worship, together, with you in the coming weeks!

Dara Baumann

Called Home To Heaven

On Tuesday, May 21st, God in his wisdom called home to heaven the soul of our sister in Christ, **Phyllis Litterer**. Pastor Schrimpf officiated at her funeral on Friday, May 24th, at 10:30 AM at Cotner Funeral Home in Reynoldsburg. Interment followed at Glen Rest Memorial Estates. We pray for God's comfort and strength for her husband, Jim, and for their family in the knowledge of the resurrection to eternal life.

Graduations

Please let the office know of any of our members who will be graduating from high school or college so that we can recognize them in the Messenger and Sunday worship folders. Please include information about the name of the high school or college they are graduating from and about future plans for further education or a career that they will be entering.



Please join us **Saturday, June 8th**, as we celebrate **Jonathan Strous' high school graduation** from Tree of Life Christian School. The party will be held at the Hannah Park

Shelter located at 6547 Clark State Rd., Gahanna, Ohio 43230 from 11 AM - 2 PM. He is excited to be attending Taylor University in the fall. We hope to see you there! Questions/RSVP to 614-738-6215 (Kathy) or 614-800-5177 (Kevin).

25th Wedding Anniversary Celebration

Please join us **Saturday, June 29th**, as we celebrate **Josh and Thia Thissen's 25th Anniversary**. The party will be held at Plank's Café and Pizzeria located at 743 Parsons Ave., Columbus, OH 43206 from 5 pm – 8 pm. We are looking forward to sharing this special moment with our family and friends. Hope to see you!

Please RSVP to pthissen@hotmail.com or 614-653-1078 (Josh) by Saturday, June 15th if you plan to attend.



Enrollment for 2019-2020

Our enrollment for 2019-2020 is projected to be in the high 80's. The kindergarten class is full for the coming year. We do have room for more students in some of the other grades. Please share our school information with others! We are very thankful that God has already blessed us with many new students!

School Closing Service & Graduation

The school year ended on Friday, May 24th, with a special closing service and graduation of seven kindergarten students and 7 eighth grade students.

The Kindergarten Graduating Class of 2019

Brayden Allen Cordle
Jordyn Ann DeFrank
Jacoby Mason Grant
Jeremiah Genesis Holland
Jacie Love Janine Jacob
Gabriella Nashya Jean Platt
Russell Wayne Sanders III

The Eighth Grade Graduating Class of 2019

Justin Aaron Batista
Ryan Michael Coriell
Kilee Marie Gordon
Emma Lena Martin
Jakobe Dwight Newman
Brian Keith Ott III
Eric Matthew Thomas Tschirner

We congratulate our graduates and wish all of our students and their families a blessed summer.

Two New Teachers Assigned

On Saturday, May 18th, God blessed us with the assignment of two teachers through the WELS Assignment Committee.

Tiffany Tellock of Freedom, WI will be our 3rd and 4th grade teacher. This summer, Tiffany will be marrying Adam Stevens (the new principal at Beautiful Savior in Grove City.)

Megan Schoch of Merrill MI will be teaching the 7th and 8th grades. Megan is the sister of our 5th and 6th grade teacher, Garrett Schoch.

May God bless these teachers as they begin serving his precious lambs here at St. Paul's.



June 25-27 Teachers attend WELS Ed/Tech Conference in Milwaukee
July 12 Back to School Night
5:00 PM-7:00 PM
July 20 Back to School Day
10:30 AM-12:30 PM
August 8 Faculty Inservice Begins
August 15 Registration Day
11 AM-2 PM & 4 PM-7 PM
August 22 First Day of School (2019-2020)



VBS coming in July

Save the following dates for Vacation Bible School - July 22 to July 26. VBS serves children ages 3 to those entering the sixth grade. This year's theme is

"Miraculous Mission – Jesus Saves the World." For more information, please speak to Vicar Swiderski.

Voters' Meeting

There will be a Voters' Meeting on **Sunday, June 9th after the 10:30 AM service** to vote on a short-term goal for the members of St. Paul's. This is being done to help us in our planning of the celebration of the 200th Anniversary of St. Paul's in

2021. On June 9th, we are asking for everyone, voters and non-voters, to adopt a theme for this celebration. It can be one of the following suggestions that have been printed in the worship folder during the past weeks or it can be one that you or other members have thought of and want to add to the list.

Some theme ideas:

- “Pressing on to the 200th”
- “Preserving our Great Heritage”
- “Building for the 200th”
- “An Anniversary Worth Preserving”
- “Renovating for a Thanksgiving”
- “Celebrating Our 200th”
- “Renovating and Celebrating”
- “Celebrating God’s Grace for 200 Years”
- “A Giving of Thanks”
- “A Time to Build, A Time to Celebrate”
- “200 Years of God’s Grace”
- “A Celebration Renovation”
- “Renovating for a 200 Year Celebration”
- “Praise and Thanks – 200 Years of Grace”



Evangelism

In our monthly devotions we have discussed developing a bridge-building mission mindset. By this we are really trying to create personal relationships with the people so that they want to “come and see” what we are teaching at St. Paul’s. As important as this is, we want to especially work to share the gospel of Jesus with them.

On Saturday, May 11th, we participated in the German Village Valuables Sale. We were not actually selling anything but we had opportunity to interact with over a hundred people as they came past our tent in the church archway area. We gave them brochures and information about St. Paul’s and offered free bottled water, mints and Frisbees. About five people took copies of the Gospel of John that we had available. We even had a couple who had visited our table earlier in the day return to donate a case of water for our use.

Our next big event will be the annual Merion Village Garden Tour where we offer an Ice Cream

Social, church tours, bottled water and brochures with information about St. Paul’s. This setting offers an excellent opportunity for us to sit and visit with people while they are enjoying their ice cream. We can invite them to “come and see” what we believe and teach.

We can all be thinking about inviting friends and neighbors to VBS which will take place July 22nd to 26th. The theme this year is “Miraculous Mission: Jesus Saves the World.”

Everyone is invited to attend our meetings and become a part of the mission mindset that we are seeking to develop here within our congregation. Our next meeting will be held in the Upper Room on Monday, June 17th, at 6:00 PM. (or Tues. June 18)

Phil Glende, Evangelism Team Chair

ORGANIZATIONS



The Altar Guild will not have a regular meeting again until Thursday, September. The Guild continues to serve by taking care of the altar flowers, altar paraments, altar candles and acolytes’ robes as well as carrying out other responsibilities throughout the summer months.

There are still openings on the Altar Flower Calendar for 2019. If you would like to sponsor altar flowers, please check it out and sign up. The cost is \$25.00 for the altar vases and \$15.00 for special flowers after the altar vases are taken.

The Altar Committee for June is Mindy Sayre, Lucille Ortziger and Kathy Glende.

(Pat Ratz, president)



Evening Women's Guild

The Evening Women’s Guild takes a break from regular meetings during the summer months. Monthly meetings start up again in September.

One activity during the summer months is the National Lutheran Women’s Missionary Society Convention which is being held in Des Moines,

Iowa on June 27th-June 30th. Our guild actively supports the LWMS with offerings and by attending Circuit Rallies in spring and fall. Our circuit along with the circuit in northern Ohio will be hosting the Annual Convention in 2021 possibly in Columbus. You will be hearing more about this as plans start to shape up. We are looking forward to this special opportunity!

(Suzanne Geiger, president)

Young at Heart



We will meet on Thursday, June 27, at 10:00 AM in the church library. We will continue our studies of other Christian churches led by Vicar Swiderski. Call Joyce Larger at 614-314-7571 with questions.

(Joyce Larger, coordinator)



For Bible class, our teens have been sitting in on Pastor Schrimpf's presentation on his visits to Turkey and Greece, highlighting locations visited by the Apostle Paul as well as churches written about in the book of Revelation. With the school year coming to a close, many of our teens have returned home for the summer months. With their return, we are planning new study topics for Bible study, summertime outings, and a camping trip in July.

Stay updated with the teens in the church bulletin, on our revamped youth group page on stpaulcares.org, and on Facebook!

*Respectfully submitted,
Vicar Swiderski*

Every Member Visits With Pastor Schrimpf

Dear members of St. Paul's,

I thank the members who have called me and made appointments for a visitation. I have enjoyed getting to know who you are. For those who have yet to make an appointment, feel free to call me anytime (614-817-2812). Please know that we do not need to meet at your home. I can visit you at St. Paul's, a café, the park, etc.

Sincerely in Christ,
Pastor Schrimpf



Home Missions approves new projects

2019/05/21/in Together

The Executive Committee of WELS Board for Home Missions met on May 9 and authorized financial support for one new mission congregation and one ministry enhancement.

“Even though there was limited funding this spring, we are excited about the new mission start in Houston, Texas,” says Rev. Wayne Uhlhorn, chairman of WELS Board for Home Missions. “The work the core group has already done and the demographics have us feeling this is the right place and the right time.”

A dedicated group of core members from other WELS churches in the area has been meeting monthly for Bible study since 2015. Rev. Keith Free, administrator of WELS Home Missions, credits these monthly meetings as a strength of this mission.

“They have put in the time so that now as friends in Christ they are ‘all in’ to start a mission,” says Free. The new mission will be located in an urban neighborhood that is seeing a resurgence in popularity as people strive to be closer to the city center. Sixty-five percent of those living in the target area are not involved in a religious congregation or community.

Home Missions is also supporting a ministry enhancement to the campus ministry at the University of Wisconsin–Oshkosh. For more than 35 years, Martin Luther, Oshkosh, Wis., and other local congregations have supported a campus ministry at this university alongside WELS Campus Ministry. Known as Rising Son Ministry Center, this campus ministry has a house just a couple blocks off campus that is used for fellowship, Bible study, and worship. Currently, though, activities are only taking place one night per week because there isn't a dedicated staff member to oversee the ministry.

The financial support from Home Missions will allow Martin Luther to call a pastor whose job will be to serve half-time at Martin Luther and half-time at Rising Son Ministry Center.

Rev. Nathan Ericson, who currently serves at Martin Luther and works with Rising Son Ministry Center, notes, “A city of Oshkosh study has shown how the UW–Oshkosh campus neighborhood has gone from being 50 percent renter-occupied to more than 90 percent renter-occupied in the years 2000 through 2016 and will approach 100 percent in coming years. Most of the 15,000 residents of this area are juniors, seniors, or recent graduates. There are essentially no churches in this area except Rising Son Ministry Center. With increased staffing we can attempt to reach this field that is ripe for harvest.”

WELS Board for Home Missions also approved two other new starts whose financial support is coming from outside the budget of WELS Home Missions for the next two fiscal years. These unsubsidized missions are opening in Folsom, Calif., and Wesley Chapel, Fla. The board also changed the status of the mission in Killeen, Texas, from “subsidized” to “unsubsidized” since it is now receiving financial support outside Home Missions’ budget. Home Missions provides assistance to unsubsidized mission congregations through its district mission boards, mission counselors, and synodical support staff.

To learn more about WELS Home Missions, visit wels.net/homemissions.

Serving the military personnel of WELS

2019/05/21/in [Together](#)

Through WELS Military Services, numerous resources are available to support the faith of those who serve and have served in the United States Armed Forces. This committee operates through a national civilian chaplain and liaison to the military, a full-time civilian chaplain in Europe, and many WELS pastors who serve those stationed stateside. Two recent events represent how WELS aims to meet the spiritual needs of both active and retired members of the military.

April 30–May 2, the WELS Military Services Committee held its annual Military Contact Pastors Retreat at Risen Savior, Chula Vista, Calif., near Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton.

When a WELS congregation is located near a military installation like Camp Pendleton, the pastor serving that congregation may be asked to serve as a

military contact pastor. Currently more than 100 WELS pastors are serving WELS military personnel in this capacity.

This year, 22 WELS military contact pastors, five Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS) pastors, six WELS Military Services Committee members, and three special speakers were in attendance at the Military Contact Pastors Retreat under the theme “Serving Those Who Serve Our Country.” The retreat’s presentations provided the attendees with insights into the unique challenges of the military lifestyle during and after deployment. Attendees were also able to visit Camp Pendleton. There, they spoke to the camp’s chaplain who explained how WELS pastors and certified lay leaders can serve certain spiritual needs of WELS military personnel. Then, May 3–5, the Lutheran Military Support Group hosted its second annual Veteran Spiritual R&R at Camp Phillip, Wautoma, Wis. The retreat was open to all WELS and ELS veterans who live with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).

Attendees gathered from across the United States. Over the three days, they encouraged one another through their shared experiences in military service and shared faith in Jesus Christ. They bonded through team activities and topical workshops. “I am so amazed at how people who have never known each other can connect so quickly and offer such meaningful support to each other,” says Rev. Jason Hacker, Grace, Waukesha, Wis. “What a blessing it was to witness it!” Hacker is also a member of the Board of Directors for the Lutheran Military Support Group and a WELS civilian chaplain.

Rev. Paul Horn, chairman of the WELS Military Services Committee, notes that the key to serving more WELS members in the military is through referrals from their loved ones.

“The best thing civilian laypeople can do to help is to refer their troops, whether they are family members or friends,” Horn explains. “They should go to wels.net/refer to enter military members’ information so we can serve them with Word and Sacraments.”

To learn more about WELS Military Services, visit wels.net/military.

For more information about the Lutheran Military Support Group, visit lutheranmilitary.org.

