



A Member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

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. 93, No. 11

322 E. Stewart Ave., Columbus, OH 43206

November, 2018

Telephone: (614) 444-0625

E-mail address: stpaul1821@rrohio.com

Website: www.stpaulcares.org

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go." (Joshua 1:9)

Dear members of Christ's body,

To say that the last few months have been a learning experience would be a major understatement. One of the brothers on the Conference of Presidents aptly described it as: *trying to drink from a fire hose that is wide open and at full strength.*

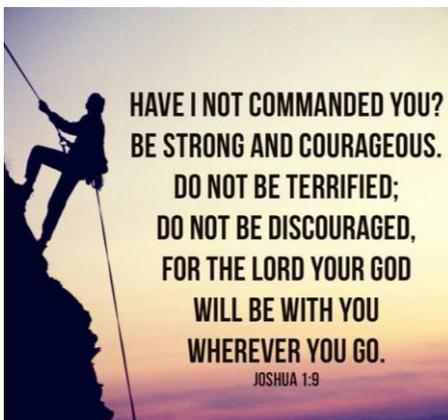
There has been an awful lot to learn, take in and to act upon in a rather short period of time. There is more to come. Many brothers continue to ask how I am doing. I simply reply: I am still standing.

Standing not on my own, but by the power and strength of the LORD God who made a promise to me long ago. The LORD my God, our God, has been with me and will continue to be with me as I seek to serve him and his people. He has been with me through the men who surround me on the Praesidium; through the brothers who serve as circuit pastors and through the pastors who carry out the business of God's church to his glory and for the good of his people to keep them strong in the faith.

Strong and courageous, not by myself or just for me. The one who gave the command, also gives what he commands. He has given the same command to you. He has given the same strength and courage to you. He has done this so that his kingdom may continue to grow in spite of the challenges we may be facing as a congregation, school or families. We need not be afraid or discouraged, because our God is with us. When

things don't go the way we may have planned them, he is with us. We may not know how things are going to turn out after all our planning and hard work, he knows and is with us the entire time.

So, wherever you go, whatever you do, be strong and courageous. Don't be afraid. Know and trust that the LORD, your God, is with you; just as he promised. This is a truth I continue to be reminded of daily.



This is what I have been sharing with the pastors at the conferences I am attending. All of this is also true for us as a congregation. You may have noticed transitions taking place within our congregation. Our new pastor and vicar continue to get their feet under them. Our new teachers are getting to know the students and parents. They all continue to ask questions and make suggestions that may not have been asked or offered before.

They, too, have a lot to digest and become accustomed to. Just getting to know members is a challenge. Getting settled into a routine and balancing time has become real in so many ways. Pastor Schrimpf has admirably stepped in and taken over tasks. Vicar Swiderski has stared new things in the eyes and taken them on with vigor.

What blessings the Lord has showered on us! What wonderful changes he continues to bring our way through these gifts! Cherish these gifts! Don't take them for granted! Invite them to your home. Spend time with them. Get to know them **and** their family. See the strength and courage which the LORD has placed before you in them.

—Pastor Snowden G. Sims

Men's Rally

St. Paul's 6th Annual Men's Rally "Passing on the mantle"

Come and be encouraged by God's Word to continue fellowshiping with younger brothers to pass on the mantle. Enjoy good food, good fun, fellowship, horseshoes, darts, card games, etc.

Date: October 6, 2018

Time: 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Sims Home

*2167 Big Run Road East
Grove City, Ohio 43123*

Every Member Visit with Pastor Schrimpf

Dear member(s) of St. Paul's,

Now that I have settled into my office and home, I would like to conduct every member visits. This will give you an opportunity to speak with me one-on-one and learn more about me. It will also give me a chance to get to know you personally.

Please feel free to call or text any time to set up an appointment in which we can meet in your home. My number is 614-817-2812. You can also call the church office. I look forward to meeting with you and learning how I can best serve you and your family with God's Word.

Sincerely in Christ,
Pastor Schrimpf

Financial Update

Members of St. Paul's,

God sent out his Word and healed us; he has rescued us from the grave. Therefore, we give thanks to the Lord for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for mankind. We sacrifice thank offerings and tell of his works with songs of joy!

As you may know, the offerings you have given recently have been *substantial amounts*. Thank you for your thank offerings to the Lord. With continued offerings like these, St. Paul's is well on its way of overcoming the shortfall. May the Lord continue to fill your hearts with great joy as you give thank offerings. May his promise to always provide for you give you peace of mind. May the good news of your immortality through Jesus Christ, continue to *elate* you in supporting the mission of St. Paul's church and school!

Kroger Rewards

The Kroger Rewards are still coming in. We just received a check for \$92.01. Thanks to everyone who designates their points to St. Paul's. If anyone else wants to sign up, our church code number is 90010.



Academic Day

This year St. Paul's will be hosting the Ohio WELS schools for their Academic Day. It will take place on Saturday, November 10th. There will be competition in Math, Forensics and Spelling. If anyone has any books that would help with the forensics preparations it would be awesome! You can give them to Mr. Galecki. Mark your calendars and stop in to watch our students compete with students from Grove City, Jenera, Cincinnati and Toledo.

Morning Breakfast

Once each month, when the students arrive at school, they are being treated to a nice breakfast prepared and donated by Paula Hickman. The September breakfast was great and the students look forward to the next one. Thank you, Miss Paula, for doing something special for our school!

Class Trip

The planning for our class trip to the Smoky Mountains in Tennessee is in full swing. We have over 20 middle schoolers desiring to go. In light of this we have rented a charter bus to get up there and will need to rent an additional cabin. This will cause us to have roughly a \$2,000 deficit. We will be hiking in the mountains, going to a magic show, swimming, visiting Ripley's aquarium and other museums. If there is any way you can assist us as we prepare to go to Gatlinburg, please get in contact with me at 614-929-2145.

Sincerely, Mr. Galecki

Camping Trip

We had 29 5th-8th graders sign up and participate in our annual camping trip. A HUGE Thank you to Mark Greiner and Ron McDonald for putting this together. The students set up tents, survived some rain, went hiking, grilled some food, sat around a fire, went fishing, swimming, and there may have been a couple wrestling matches with Mr. Galecki and the boys. When it was all said and done there were many smiles and tired eyes. What a great trip!



Nov 1-2	Parent/Teacher Conferences Dismiss at Noon Thursday No School Friday
Nov 10	Academic Day
Nov 20	Thanksgiving Parties
Nov 21-23	Thanksgiving Break – No School
Nov 30	Spelling Bee (12:30 PM)
Dec 20	School Christmas Service (7 PM)
Dec 21	School Christmas Parties
Jan 7	School Resumes
Jan 14	Professional Day – No School
Jan 18	End of 2 nd Quarter
Jan 21-22	Pastor/Teacher Conference No School

ORGANIZATIONS



The Altar Guild will meet on Thursday, November 8th at 7:00 PM in the auditorium. They will be finalizing some of the plans for Christmas decorating in the church. The date is set for Sunday, November 25th, after the church services.

There are still some openings on the altar flower calendar for October, November and December. If you would like to sponsor altar flowers for a special occasion, please sign up on the Flower Calendar posted on the bulletin board in the

church entryway.

The Altar Committee for October is Kim Frye, Mindy Sayre and Lucille Ortziger.

(Pat Ratz, president)



Evangelism

We thank God for the many blessings we've received recently. We are thankful that Miss Heller has joined us as a pianist/organist for worship services and as an accompanist for various musical groups. Praise the Lord and thanks to the members who have given generously. We'd also like to thank all the volunteers that helped out with our recent events. Here's a brief review of our September events.

Merion Village Festival (Sept. 9th). Rain didn't stop us from participating in the festival or interacting with our community. A lot of the information was shared with our neighbors, and we pray that people will join us on Sundays in the near future.

During our September meeting, we went through a SWOT analysis of the Evangelism. Many strengths and opportunities were celebrated, while the weaknesses and threats were also discussed honestly. After getting all the results from other boards, our congregation will come up with some action items, and our team is looking forward to embracing the challenges and adjusting to serve the true purpose of our team: to share the Gospel. After the meeting, some of our members headed to Schiller Park to distribute our Annual Church Picnic invites.

Annual Church Picnic (Sept. 16th). We had a great turn out. We had a lot of visitors from school families. It was estimated that we had over 180 people at the event! Thanks again for all the volunteers, especially Mark and Ron for grilling, and all others for serving food, setting up, and cleaning up. The kids also had fun with a bigger bounce house.

Our next meeting will be October 8th at 6:00 pm. We'll be discussing the events we are planning on for the future. Hope to see you there.

- Tony Deng
The Evangelism Team Chair



Evening Women's Guild

Meeting - Friday, November 2

The ladies of the congregation will be putting together the Shut-In gifts at the October 19th Evening Women's Guild meeting. We extend a warm invitation to all women of the congregation to join us in the assembly process. The October meeting will take place at the home of Melinda Sims at 2167 Big Run Road East in Grove City at 6:30 PM. Those attending can bring their Bibles for the Bible study portion of the evening and then plan to stay after the meeting for food and fellowship. Questions? Contact Suzanne Geiger at 614-214-9305.

Recap of the LWMS Fall 2018 Rally

On Saturday, October 13th, the annual LWMS Heartland Circuit Fall Rally was held at Hope Lutheran Church in Louisville, Kentucky. Approximately 40 attendees enjoyed the day under the theme: "Setting Souls Free One at a Time" based on Revelation 1:17-18. Pastor David Boettcher of Alberta, Canada highlighted the unique cultural differences between Canadians and Americans and emphasized the steady work being done up there to win over souls one at a time. At the business meeting, three different convention reports were provided by circuit board members who attended the annual convention in Green Bay, Wisconsin, June 21-24. An informal survey was then conducted to determine the Heartland Circuit membership's interest in hosting a convention in Columbus in 2021. The board members also extended an invitation for ladies to run for the following positions which will be open in the spring: president, vice-president, treasurer, and spiritual growth woman. After lunch, Pastor Boettcher tested everyone's knowledge of Canada by distributing the Ultimate Great Canada Quiz. Later in the afternoon, a Bible study based on The Healing of a Demon-Possessed Man, Mark 5: 1-20 was led by Pastor Troy Jacobs.

The spring rally is scheduled to take place at Lamb of God Lutheran Church in Columbus, Ohio on Saturday, March 30, 2019. Pastor Philip

Loescher of Crown of Life Lutheran Church in Cadillac, Michigan will be the featured speaker. Mark your calendars!

(Suzanne Geiger, president)

Young at Heart



We will meet at 10:00 AM on Thursday, October 18th in the **Church Library**. Please join us. Call Joyce Larger at 614-314-7571 with questions.

(Joyce Larger, coordinator)



The teens continue their Bible study during the Sunday School hour with Vicar Swiderski. They continue to dive deep into the Book of I Peter and what it has to say about our identities in Christ. Join them on Sundays at 9:15 A.M. in the auditorium to begin with devotion. Guests and visitors are welcomed.

The teens had their last Youth Group gathering September 2nd with a great turnout where they were able to play games and get to know Pastor Schrimpf and Vicar and Mrs. Swiderski a little bit better. The group will be having another meeting on Sunday, October 7th, and will discuss more plans for the year. Youth Group meetings will be held immediately following the 10:30 service once each month, so be on the lookout for further news about them! Always stay updated in the church bulletins and on Facebook for any adventure we might have planned with the youth!

Respectfully submitted,
Vicar Swiderski



Home Missions, Missions

Blog, WELS Blogs

*“I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields!
They are ripe for harvest.” – John 4:35*

Maybe you’ve experienced it before: sometimes God graciously brings the harvest field right to us. Through the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program, we are blessed with a harvest field to share the Gospel with every single day. This school year, 129 of our 246 students do not have a church home. 110 of our students have not yet been baptized. You add up those students plus their parents and siblings, and we have a harvest field of 500-600 souls that God brings to us to labor in every day!

And, only by God’s grace and the power of his Gospel, he is building his Kingdom through our efforts. Over the last several years, **160** of our students and their family members have received the gift of rebirth and renewal through Baptism. In the last three years, **19** of our current students became members as their parents were confirmed. And one of these students who has been baptized and became a member is 5th grader, Miracle Stewart, along with her father Vincent, and her older sister, Ashley.



Miracle and Vincent

Miracle started school at Mt Lebanon in 2nd grade. Her father, Vincent, was looking for a new school for his daughter. A family member recommended Mt Lebanon because of our academics, but more importantly, because we are a Lutheran school. Miracle immediately was drawn to God’s Word and loved ChristLight lessons,

devotions, and chapels. Miracle, Vincent, and Ashley quickly started attending church. Vincent says it was the family atmosphere and the preaching and teaching of the pure truths of God’s Word that connected them, and kept them coming back.

Vincent and Ashley soon began Confirmation class.

On February 29, 2016, Miracle and Ashley were baptized and on March 6, 2016, Vincent and Ashley were confirmed into the Lutheran faith. The family is regular in worship and Sunday School classes, and Vincent serves on our School Board, as an usher, and helps with lawn care.

Even though God might sometimes bring the harvest field right to us and allow us to see the fruits of our labors, like the work his Word did with Miracle, Vincent, and Ashley, sometimes it’s not so visible. Sometimes “success” is hard to see and it’s easy to get discouraged and wonder if it’s worth all the effort. But in the end, it’s God who knows and works, and he desires for us to have an eternal perspective on our work. We are not called to fill our churches, we are called to do everything we can to fill heaven, as we share the saving Gospel faithfully, boldly, tirelessly, and with great urgency.

And, as God’s tools, when we do get to witness some visible fruit of our labors, we have to simply stand back in awe at the power of his Word that works in hearts and homes. We have reason to thank God that the results do not depend on us, but we simply get to share the good news of hope, peace, joy, and purpose we have in Christ. We work hard, we desire to be faithful, and we strive to do our best to God’s glory.

Please remember Miracle, Ashley, and Vincent in your prayers as they continue to grow in their faith and live their faith. Please also pray for the many students and families whom we have the opportunity to serve every day with the Gospel. And please pray for the many churches and schools throughout our church body that God is using to share his Gospel faithfully, boldly, tirelessly, and with great urgency!

Written By: School Pastor Aaron Bublitz, Mt. Lebanon Lutheran Church & School

In 2017, Mt. Lebanon was blessed to receive support from the Board for Home Missions to call a second pastor, Pastor Nate Bourman, so that Pastor Bublitz could focus full-time on ministering to the unchurched families of their school.

October 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<u>Acolytes</u> 7-(E) Jaelan (L) Avery 14-(E) Jaelan (L) Andres 21-(E) Jaelan (L) Braylon 28-(E) Jaelan (L) Katie	1 7:00 PM Bd. of Elders	2	3 8:35 AM School Chapel 4:30 PM Jr. Bell Choir 6:15 PM Sr. Bell Choir 7:00 PM Sr. Choir	4 7:00 PM Bible Basics	5	6 10:00 AM- 3:00 PM Annual Men's Rally at Sims'
7 WELS Connection 8:00 AM Worship 8:45 AM Fellowship 9:15 AM SS & Bible Class 10:30 AM Worship Youth Group after 10:30 Service	8 6:00 PM Bd. of Evangelism	9 7:00 PM Sunday School Teachers	10 MI District WELS Teachers' Conference in Stevensville, MI - No School	11 MI District WELS Teachers' Conference in Stevensville, MI - No School 7:00 PM Bible Basics	12 MI District WELS Teachers' Conference in Stevensville, MI - No School	13 Leave at 5:45 AM for LWMS Fall Mission Day in Louisville, KY
14 Communion 8:00 AM Worship 8:45 AM Fellowship 9:15 AM SS & Bible Class 10:30 AM Worship	15 Pastors' Conference Gibsonis, PA 7:00 PM Bd. of Education	16 Pastors' Conference Gibsonis, PA	17 8:35 AM School Chapel 4:30 PM Jr. Bell Choir 6:15 PM Sr. Bell Choir 7:00 PM Sr. Choir	18 10:00 AM Young at Heart 7:00 PM Bible Basics	19 Teachers' Professional Day - No School 6:30 PM Evening Women's Guild at Sims'	20
21 8:00 AM Worship 8:45 AM Fellowship 9:15 AM SS & Bible Class 10:30 AM Worship	22 7:00 PM Church Council	23	24 8:35 AM School Chapel 4:30 PM Jr. Bell Choir 6:15 PM Sr. Bell Choir 7:00 PM Sr. Choir	25 7:00 PM Bible Basics	26	27
28 Communion 8:00 AM Worship 8:45 AM Fellowship 9:15 AM SS & Bible Class 10:30 AM Worship	29	30	31 8:35 AM School Chapel 4:30 PM Jr. Bell Choir 6:15 PM Sr. Bell Choir 7:00 PM Sr. Choir	<u>Greeters</u> 7-(E)Thissenl (L)Falter 14-(E)Howell (L)Hickman 21-(E)Frye (L)Colegrove 28-(E)Thissenl (L)McDonald	<u>Altar Commitee</u> Kim Frye Mindy Sayre Lucille Ortziger	

