



St. Paul's Epistle
St. Paul Lutheran Church
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Volume 41

SEPTEMBER 2011

Issue 9

A Word from the Pastor ~

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

By the time you receive this, school will be back in session and we'll all be wondering how the summer months could have once again flown by so quickly. No matter how much we remind ourselves that there are always 24 hours in a day, 7 days in a week, and 365 days in a year, it seems that time still has a way of speeding up or slowing down depending on the circumstances. Watching the clock and the calendar can make us restless. Time either doesn't move fast enough to suit our desires when we're excited for something in the future, or it moves too quickly when we're dreading what lies ahead.

Such restlessness is a symptom of a deeper problem. The problem isn't with the calendar or the clock, the problem is that we're not at peace with God. Although we might acknowledge it intellectually, not one of us can fully confess with unwavering confidence what King David wrote in Psalm 31:

*But I trust in you, O Lord;
I say, "You are my God."
My times are in your hand.
(Ps. 31:14-15a)*

We may have regrets over wasted time and missed opportunities. Such regrets can leave us wishing we could go back and try again. Or we may wish we could skip over the slow, agonizing days and minutes of a long wait for something. But to acknowledge that our times are in God's hand is to acknowledge and accept that God, in His infinite wisdom and mercy, has given us only one part of time to do something with—the present. All we can do with the past is learn from it and let it go. All we can do with regards to the future is to prepare for it by our use of the present.

Letting go of the past means trusting in God's promise of forgiveness for our failures. Using the present to prepare for the future means stepping boldly through each moment of time, trusting in God's mercy and forgiveness for

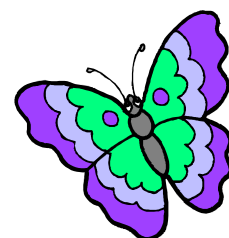
any future failures and also trusting in His promise that is so beautifully expressed by Jeremiah: "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for wholeness and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope (Jer. 29:11)."

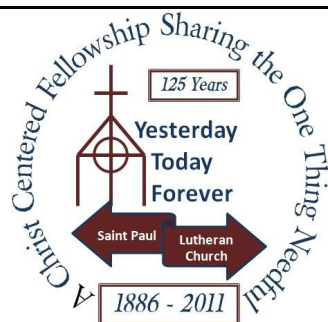
We can live in the present with no regrets regarding the past and we can look ahead to the future with no fear because we have a Savior who came in the "fullness of time" (Gal. 4:4) to be the once-for-all sacrifice for the sins of the world. We have the present as a gift from God to use according to His will. The path for us to follow is illuminated by His Word (Ps. 119:105). As we continue to walk along that path in the present, there will be times that it feels as though our feet are weighed down with lead weights and other times that it will feel as though the path is moving under our feet like a treadmill on its fastest speed.

And when the weights on our feet feel too heavy or the speed of the treadmill seems too fast, it's time to be reminded of the Psalmist's words: "Be still and know that I am God (Ps. 46:10)." Then we'll be able to hear His quiet voice speaking through His Word to bring order out of chaos just as He did at the beginning of time with the creation of the world and as He restored order back to our fallen world and sanctified our time in it by sending His eternal Son to enter time for us ("born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate...the third day He rose again from the dead").

The summer months are gone. A new school year has begun. And with the arrival of this transition we pray:
*Eternal Father, for every change and transition that the clock and the calendar bring into our lives, lead us by Your grace to trust that our times are in Your hand.
Amen.*

Your Servant in Christ,
Pastor Licht





125th Anniversary Celebration

Sharing the One Thing Needful—Yesterday, Today, and Forever

Sunday, October 9, 2011

10:00 a.m. Worship Service (No Holy Communion)

Former Pastor Charles Haake will be our Guest Preacher

Nathan Proctor will serve as Organist

Special Music by our church choir

Dedication of Crucifix made from our former communion rail

11:30 a.m.—Catered Meal in the Fellowship Hall

from Lidderdale Country Store

Adults \$10.00; Children age 5-10 \$5.00; Age 4 & under-free

RSVP information is in you church mailbox—**Paid Reservations due Sept. 18, 2011**

Tickets will not be sold at the door.

Short Program/Reception will follow the meal.

(No Saturday Service that weekend, No Sunday School or Bible Class on Sunday.)

You are encouraged to invite family members and/or former members you have kept in contact with to come for the day.

Anniversary Trivia Questions

Answers to last month's questions:

1. *In the early 1900s as St. Paul membership grew, we rented a church for services at 9th & Adams St. for \$12/month. What church building was it?*
Episcopal Church
2. *In 1925, again needing more room, St. Paul members purchased a church and parsonage at 7th & Adams St. Who previously owned that church building? It was a Baptist Church*

September questions (look for the answers in our History Timeline in the Fellowship Hall and in our next Newsletter)

1. *When was the worship area in our church re-modeled to move the communion rail to the bottom of the steps—among other changes?*
2. *What has been made from the communion rail that was replaced?*

Notes & News

Attention Choir Members!

Fall is just around the corner and a new choir season is about to begin. For all of our present members and anyone wishing to join us in song —

Rehearsals begin: Wednesday, September 7
Rehearsal time: 7:30 p.m.—9:00 p.m.

We welcome anyone high school age and up who enjoys singing to join us in having fun, sharing fellowship and singing God's praises. Come and be a part of our special 125th Anniversary Celebration service on October 9—then consider staying as we continue through the church year. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me (Vicki Grundmeier, director). My home phone is 792-5818.

See you on the 7th!



Confirmation Parents & Students for Grades 5-8

will meet Wednesday, August 31, at 6:00 p.m. All parents and students should attend this important meeting.

Confirmation Classes begin Wednesday, September 7, at 6:00 p.m.



Christian Fiction Book Club will meet Sunday, September 11, at 7 p.m. in the East Room at church. We will discuss The Daughter's Walk by Jane Kirkpatrick. Everyone is welcome to come and join us.

Emergency Fire Evacuation Procedure

- An Elder or Usher will activate the fire alarm by calling 9-1-1 (dial 9 first to get outside line)
- The person making the call will give their name, name of the church, church address, what is known about the situation, and church phone number
- Ushers will direct church members in an orderly fashion to the nearest outside door exists (south door of the worship area, south and north Narthex doors, west room door)
- Members in Fellowship Hall will be evacuated through the south door by the kitchen
- All evacuees need to be 100 feet from the church
- All members will be evacuated to grassy area south of church (or southern part of parking lots in the winter months)
- During Sunday School, students will be directed to south door of Sunday School wing and evacuated to south grassy area
- Teachers will close class doors as they leave their rooms and stay with their students
- An Elder or Usher will check the choir loft and first floor and lower level bathrooms to verify all members are evacuating the building
- Do Not Re-enter the Building until Permission is Given by the Fire Department
- Do Not Use the Elevator as a Way to Exit the Building



Mission in Mercy Outpost

225 4th Street (Thomas Plaza)
Carroll, IA
Phone: 775-2262

Iowa District West Men's Ministry Event Saturday, September 17 St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, Mapleton

This is a day long event with breakfast being served from 8:00-8:45 a.m. Following will be a variety of "hands on" mission projects both in the Mapleton community and at Mission Central (have your hand tools ready to go). Lunch will be provided by Mission Central with an optional tour of Mission Central. Cost for the event is \$10 payable at the door. Registration forms are available online at www.idwlcms.org or call 515.576.7666 or email jill.davis@idwlcms.org Registrations are due by Sept. 13.

Daytime/Walk-in Hours of Operation:

Mon –Thu, 10 am – 1 pm

Scheduled Activities:

Sundays: Prayer Service – 1145 am

Mondays: AA meeting – 530 pm

Tuesdays:

Wednesdays: Bible Study – 4:30 pm

AA meeting – 530 pm

Thursdays: Alanon meeting – 530 pm

Fridays: AA meeting (Women) – 8 am

Saturdays: AA meeting – 1030 am

NA meeting – 12 pm

Ready, Set, Recycle!"

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) of Iowa will host the 2015 National Convention in Des Moines! You can help our Guild earn funds to cover expenses by being a part of our "Ready, Set, Recycle" campaign. Bring the following recyclable items to church and place them in the box in the cloakroom off the Narthex or call Barb Brockelsby at 790-9592:

- Empty inkjet printer cartridges
- Empty laser printer cartridges
- Used cell phones
- Laptops, including power cords
- Palm Pilots (PDAs)

Please leave in original boxes if possible or place in plastic zip-lock bags. Thank you for your help.

Unacceptable items: Toner tubes/cartridges, Epson printer cartridges, Cannon BCI cartridges, Remanufactured cartridges, refilled cartridges or new unopened cartridges. Any cartridge that **DOES NOT** have a metal print head is unacceptable.



Circle Dates—

- Lydia:** Tuesday, Sept. 13, 7:00 p.m.
East Room; Barb Brockelsby, hostess and topic leader
- Rachel:** Wednesday, Sept. 14, 1:30 p.m.,
Fellowship Hall, Marjorie Reinhart, hostess; Pastor, topic

Quarterly Potluck & General Meeting Thursday, September 1—6:30 p.m.

LWML Fall Rally—Friday, September 23
Trinity, Coon Rapids
9 a.m. Registration—9:30 a.m. Start time
Speaker—Gary Thies

LWML *Quarterly* Subscriptions are due

Cost—\$5.00

Renewal Deadline is September 18.
Late orders will not be honored.

Name: _____

Make checks payable to St. Paul LWG
Subscription will begin in Summer 2012



Sunday School Begins Sept. 11

Sunday School will begin on September 11 at 10:15. This will also be the Sunday that the first graders will receive the book *My First Catechism* and the third grades will receive a Bible. These special gifts will help the children grow in their faith.

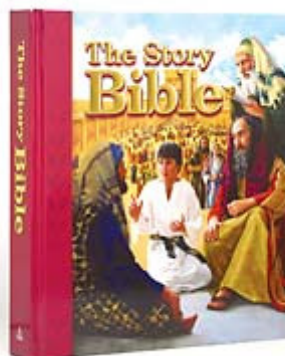


In the fall quarter we will be learning about Jacob, Joseph, and Moses. We will learn how Joseph was sold into slavery in Egypt by his brothers and then became a ruler in Egypt and helped save the people from a great famine. We will learn about Moses and the great plagues God inflicted on the Egyptians prior to the Pharaoh allowing the Israelites to return to the Promised Land. We will hear about the miraculous crossing of the Red Sea and end the quarter with the giving of the Ten Commandments.

The board of education is dedicated to providing your children with knowledge of God and what He has done for them. We are excited that we have 10 people who will be teaching the children, four who agreed to serve as substitutes, three to work with the children through music, and two to serve in administering the program. We are thankful for the almost 20 people who have agreed to serve their Lord and the children of this congregation!

The goal of the board this year is to increase attendance and the memorization of God's Word. With that in mind we will be handing out award pins to children with good attendance and special award pins for learning the Creed, Lord's Prayer, the Ten Commandments, selected Bible passages, etc. There will also be special certificates for treats from some of the Carroll businesses. Details will come later.

Remember the adventure begins September 11 as we learn about Jacob, Joseph, Moses and the giving of the Ten Commandments.



THE STORY BIBLE

Never before in the nearly 150 years of publishing has Concordia Publishing House produced a Bible for children as rich and feature filled as *The Story Bible*. This treasure will be a great help to pastors, teachers, parents, and grandparents as they, like the faithful mother and grandmother of St. Timothy, lead the little ones to understand the Sacred Scriptures.

This is the opening statement in describing this new publication from CPH. It is exciting to see all of the beautiful and realistic art that is from our Sunday School Curriculum incorporated in this book of over 130 stories from both the Old and New Testament. Each story includes discussion questions, learning activities, and prayers. There is a user guide to help us use this book with different age groups. This is a beautiful book and we would like all the families in the congregation to use this book in teaching their children and grandchildren.

The church will be sending in a group order for *The Story Bible*. If we order 10 or more copies, we can purchase the book for \$19.99 saving almost 33%. There is a signup in the back of the church to order this book or you can contact the church office. The deadline for orders is September 18. There is a copy of the book on display in the narthex at church.

**Sunday School Rally Day
Sunday—September 11
Worship—9:00 a.m.
1st Day of Sunday School—10:15 a.m.**

From the Parish Nurse ~

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

September is National Cholesterol month. Cholesterol is a waxy, fat-like substance that is found in all cells of the body. The body uses cholesterol to make hormones, Vitamin D, and substances that help digest food. Cholesterol is carried in small packages called lipoproteins in the blood stream. Low density lipoproteins (LDL) is sometimes called bad cholesterol. High LDL cholesterol leads to a build-up of cholesterol in arteries. The higher the LDL level in the blood, the greater chance of getting heart disease. High density lipoproteins (HDL) is sometimes called good cholesterol. HDL carries cholesterol from other parts of the body to the liver. The liver removes the cholesterol from the body. The higher the HDL level, the lower the chance of getting heart disease. Cholesterol can build up in the walls of arteries. This buildup of cholesterol is called plaque. Over time, plaque can cause narrowing of the arteries. This is called atherosclerosis or hardening of the arteries.

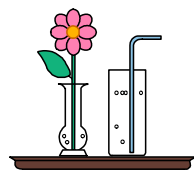
Eating foods that have saturated fats, trans fats, or from animal sources, as well as being overweight and having a lack of regular exercise can contribute to elevated cholesterol levels in the blood. Cholesterol blood tests should be drawn 9 to 12 hours after eating and drinking (fasting). Desirable numbers are cholesterol <200, LDL <100, and HDL >40. Triglycerides are another type of fat that can block arteries and should be <150. Those with heart disease or have multiple risk factors for heart disease and stroke may have stricter numbers than those listed here.

Controlling cholesterol levels can be done with the "TLC" plan: Therapeutic Lifestyle Changes. These include a low fat, low cholesterol, limited trans fat diet, regular physical activity, and weight management. Your health care provider may order drug therapy to assist you.

Discuss your cholesterol levels with your health care provider to see what you need to do to maintain good health. May God bless our health.

(Information taken from the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) website).

In His Service,
Darlene Rueter, RN
St. Paul Parish Nursing



Human Care

Carroll County Human Services provides many programs to area residents. One of these is the

FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER

502 W 7th Street, Carroll

Phone: 712-792-6440 or 1-800-999-5101

8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m. 5 days/week

Email: jruning@carrollfrc.org or
lamowrey@carrollfrc.org

Design & implement services that assist, motivate, care and educate families, children & community so families can function at their mental, educational and social potential

Services Provided:

- Crisis Nursery—emergency child care 7 days/week, 24 hours/day
- Parent Time Out—short-term child care
- Child Care Resource & Referral—working toward quality child care
- Child Care Empowerment Project—offers services to child care providers
- Supported Community Living is designed to assist the Consumer with the development of daily living skills
- Parent & Family Enrichment (Parenting Class)
- Family Support Services

Helping Fairview Elementary School Students:



St. Paul will be collecting sweatpants in all colors in sizes 5, 6, and 7 for students with wet clothes. Donations can be brought to the church during the months of September and October and left in the Narthex.

Thank You ~

Dear St. Paul Lutheran Church—Thank you so much for doing a school supply drive for our program! This year we have over 80 kids who need supplies and it takes a lot to fill those bags! Your support is very much appreciated and I can't thank you enough! Thanks for making our back-to-school supply program successful for another year! Blessings to all of you!

—Shawna Leonard
Carroll County FDC Coordinator



LUTHERANS FOR LIFE

Called by Name

by Linda D. Bartlett www.titus2-4life.org

Abortion does not think about the future. Seventy-six million baby boomers could soon realize that their lives might become a burden because 53 million people who would have supported an aging population were aborted. That's an economic nightmare.

But, there's a more personal side to this nightmare. Each one of the 53 million boys and girls who have been aborted in the U.S. alone since 1973 had a name. **"... I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine"** (Isaiah 43:1b).

Abortion drops a name placed upon a unique and treasured person. It is a name known by God before all eternity for all eternity. It is a name of a boy or girl who would have impacted this world in ways we'll never know.

Abortion drops a name from a teacher's grade book; from 4-H or Boy Scouts or junior olympics; from schools of music, agriculture, or medicine; from the consumer index and first-time home ownership; from the tax rolls; from marriage, parenthood, and genealogies.

Abortion drops a name from baptism, confirmation, and the mission field.

There is an emptiness when a name is dropped by abortion. Women from every neighborhood, family, and congregation who've suffered the loss of an aborted child would explain this if only we'd listen. That's because a mother knows a child created and named by God can never be replaced.

God named each one of this nation's 53 million aborted children. For each one He had a future and hope. Even though each would have been born into sin, God had for them a robe of righteousness because of what Jesus did on a cross for them. Our world is less because these children are not with us. Our world suffers when people created for purpose and called by name are considered "untimely," "inconvenient," or "fearful."

But, God has also named every mother who feared her child; who failed to see her child's future and hope; who, deceived by other voices, doubted that God is good and can be trusted in every circumstance. He waits with open arms for each mother with a broken and repentant heart. **"[M]y strength was dried up ... I acknowledged my sin to you ... and you forgave the iniquity of my sin"** (Psalm 32:4b-5). **"Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool"** (Isaiah 1:18).

"Woman ... neither do I condemn you; go, and from now on sin no more" (John 8:10-11).

A woman who faces the reality of her abortion is in need of someone else whom God has named. That person is you. It is me. We are friends. Comforters. Encouragers. We are imitators of the Good Shepherd who walks beside the heavy-hearted through a dark valley toward "goodness and mercy." A mother who mourns the loss of her child needs a Good Shepherd (John 10:1-18).

You and I must take care not to soften the seriousness of sin. This devalues the magnitude of God's forgiveness, bought and paid for by the sacrificial life and death of Jesus Christ. At the center of our forgiveness stands the cross of Christ. Forgiveness is costly. Our forgiveness cost the innocent Son of God His life. There is no forgiveness without blood being shed, without paying a price, without the sacrifice of Christ. But, because of Jesus' sacrifice, sin cannot defeat us. Peter, a follower of Christ, sinned greatly, but he confessed his sin and received God's forgiveness. Through Jesus' forgiveness the Holy Spirit enabled Peter to live a changed life. That same power of the Holy Spirit works through the Gospel to change our lives—to enable us to live lives that reflect God's love for us and withstand the temptation of Satan, the world, and our sinful flesh.

You and I can love and accept people burdened by their sin, but only God, in Christ, can heal them. A woman who's suffered an abortion may believe that God has forgiven her, but has difficulty forgiving herself. Jesus is the key that opens the door and sets all sinners free. What was the process for David in Psalm 51? David was sorry for his sin, confessed that sin, turned from that sin, received God's forgiveness, and was restored from sin. Then he rejoiced over God's healing touch of forgiveness and was eager to witness to others of God's great forgiveness. You and I can assure those who grieve that the memory of their aborted child will remain with them, but, **"The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness"** (Lamentations 3:22-23).

Word of Hope knows that God has called each child by name. We grieve their loss, but entrust them to God. We also know that He has called every mother, father, grandparent, and care-giving friend by name. Please pray we encourage all in a manner that honors the One who named us.

For more information about Word of Hope or its mentoring ministry, Titus 2 for Life, please call Grace at (888) 217-8679 or Linda at (641) 648-3785.

Worship Assistants for September

LECTORS: (Sunday Only)

Sept. 4 Pastor
 Sept. 11 Ralph von Qualen
 Sept. 18 Pastor
 Sept. 25 Jerry Frehse

GREETERS:

Sept. 3 Susanne Brotherson
 Sept. 4 Merle Holmes
 Sept. 10 John & Donna Spaen
 Sept. 11 Randy & Pam Stanzky
 Sept. 17 Doug & Gay Beckman
 Sept. 18 Zach Hayen
 Sept. 24 Jerry & Sheryl Frehse
 Sept. 25 Jeff & Janet Hoffman

ELDERS:

Sept. 3/4 Mike Janssen
 Sept. 10/11 Leon Schoenfeld
 Sept. 17/18 Aaron Poock
 Sept. 24/25 Joe Eisenbacher

ACOLYTES

Sept. 4 Peyton Raymond
 Sept. 11 Journee Kajewski
 Sept. 18 Gabi Howard
 Sept. 25 Justin Thooft

ALTAR GUILD

Marilyn Dryden, Chairman
 Lynette Licht
 Renee Grimsman
 Susanne Brotherson

SATURDAY USHERS

(from last year's list)
 Doug Beckman
 Bonnie Dryden
 John Spaen

SUNDAY USHERS

(from last year's list)
 Jeff, Janet & Courtney Hoffman

5-8 GRADE USHERS

Sept. 4 Kody Brinker
 Sept. 11 Mariah Clausen
 Sept. 18 Tyler Harmening
 Sept. 25 Michael Woodhouse



Camp Okoboji 2011 Schedule

Sept. 18-20—IDW Lutheran Schools
 Outdoor Education
 Sept. 25—Camp Okoboji Benefit
 Brunch
 Sept. 26-Oct. 2—Fall Volunteer Week
 Nov. 10-12—Hunting Retreat
 Nov. 11-12—Fall Women's Retreat
 Dec. 2-4—Family Advent-ure
 Dec. 30-Jan. 1—FREEZE

Go to www.campokoboji.org or call 712.337.3325 for more information on all of the above events at Camp Okoboji, 1531 Edgewood Drive, Milford, IA



THE LUTHERAN HOUR

The Lutheran Hour may be heard on Sundays on the following radio stations in our area:

KAYL, 990 AM, Storm Lake, 10 am
 KDSN, 107.1 FM, Denison, 6:30 am
 KDSN, 1530 AM, Denison, 10:30 am

Also available 24 hours/day on the Internet
 @ www.lutheranhour.org Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz

Sept. 4—*The Greatest!!*

Who is greatest in the kingdom of heaven? The one who is totally dependent on God for life, faith, and forgiveness. (Matt. 18:1-4)

Sept. 11—*Forgiven Forgivers—That's What the World Needs Now*

God's justice may keep evil at bay, but only God's grace can overcome sin and reconcile enemies. "Forgiven forgivers" become extensions of God's grace to others. (Matt. 18:21-35)

Sept. 18—*Hide and Seek? No! Seek and Find*

The seeking God is also the findable Lord. God's invitation to seek and find is one that's full of His grace and mercy. (Isaiah 55:6-7)

Sept. 25—*D.I.Y.* Rev. Dr. Ken Klaus

Do it yourself is the main message of all religions, except for one. Jesus invites all "do-it-yourselfers" to instead trust in Him to do it all for you. (Matt. 21:28-32)