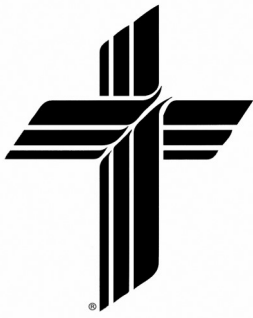


August 2019



# THE MESSENGER

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
816 9TH STREET  
CLAY CENTER KS 67432

"A Place of Grace  
and a  
Source of Hope!"  
... for over 130 years!!

## August Events:

- Holy Communion—  
Saturday-Sunday,  
August 3 & 4, August  
17 & 18
- Men's Bible Study,  
August 12 & 26, 7:00  
PM
- Unified Boards and  
Parish Directors,  
August 11 beginning at  
1:00 PM
- Friendship Circle,  
August 27 at 7:00

## Anxious!

*<sup>4</sup> Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. <sup>5</sup> Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; <sup>6</sup> do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup> And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (Phi 4:4-7 ESV)*

St. Paul writes to the Philippians to rejoice! We too have much reason to rejoice. We remember the salvation that is ours in Christ! We have a great congregation here at St. Paul. The Lord has blessed St. Paul for more than 130 years! We recently celebrated our DCE's retirement after 40 years of service! Thanks be to God for generous congregation members who have made and kept us debt free for a number of years! We rejoice in the empowered and able lay members of our congregation that are active in leadership and teaching at St. Paul. We rejoice in the Vacation Bible School and the young lives that heard of Jesus' love for them, that they too rejoice with us! God has truly blessed us and given us many reasons to rejoice!

In the midst of all of these reasons to rejoice, in the midst of St. Paul's reminder that *The Lord is at hand*, we find ourselves in the midst of anxious times. Our country is anxious about tensions in the middle east, and in other hot spots in our world. We can easily become anxious about our economy at any given moment. We become anxious as our country seems to have lost civility, finding people shouting angrily and protesting instead of sitting down and finding reasonable solutions for our disagreements.

We can become anxious at church too. We are anxious to see who will replace Jeremy at his retirement. We become anxious about all the work to do in the Kingdom. Some become anxious about our budget, although the Lord has always provided at just the right time. (Thank you to those that God has moved to provide generously for the needs of St. Paul.)

St. Paul tells us how to overcome our anxiety. *In everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.* In the Small Catechism Luther writes, "God tenderly invites us to believe that He is our true Father and that we are His true children, so that with all boldness and confidence we may ask Him as dear children ask their dear father." His door is always open and His ear is always tuned to

## Inside this Issue

Official Acts	3
St. Paul News	2-5
August Celebrations	3
Stewardship	4
August Calendar	6

our prayers, to our praises, our wants and our needs. He is glad to hear from us! He has the means to care for us and to provide all we need, and more!

As we put our cares and anxieties in His hands our hearts are filled once again with peace. The peace God gives is full, perfect and eternal. The peace that Christ won for us on the cross is given to us! That peace includes contentment, forgiveness and eternal life!

Now we can be anxious in a different, a good, way! We can be anxious to see our Lord face to face. One day we will be called to worship Him face to face. In the meantime, we can be anxious to gather as His people, to worship Him and encourage one another. I am anxious for the Preschool to be back in session so another group of young people will learn how much God loves them! I am anxious for our youth Sunday School and midweek program to resume, again so our youth will learn of the cure for the world's anxiety, Jesus! I am anxious to gather, with you, on Sunday to sing the Lord's praises. I'm anxious to receive and give *the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, (which) will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.* Sometimes it's ok to be anxious.

Anxious, in a good way, in Christ, with you,  
Pastor Paul Tessaro

**Vacancy Update--** St. Paul is moving forward to fill the vacancy left by Jeremy Pera's retirement. As directed by the congregation's constitution a call committee has been formed. The members of the call committee are; Garry Stenzel (chairman), Bob R. Carlson, Craig Parry, Todd Pfizenmaier, and Mary Greenlee. Pastor Tessaro is an ex-officio member of the committee. The elected Board of Directors has discussed the vacancy at length, as well as the call committee. In addition Rev. Dan Galchutt met with the call committee for a large part of June 8. After clarifying the needs, goals and objectives of the next called worker the call committee decided to investigate calling an associate pastor to meet the current and future needs of St. Paul. Kansas District President Lange explained the call process at a congregational meeting on July 3. Your comments are welcome and appreciated. Please feel free to discuss the future call with any of the call committee members. Be assured that the purpose of the call committee is simply to lead the congregation in this process. As you may remember, **issuing a call is the responsibility of the entire congregation.** Please stay alert for future announcements of meetings and requests for information as this process moves forward.

### **The Board of Lay Ministry**

would like to remind you to return the letter they sent out a few months ago.

Please provide them with updated information, and especially your prayer needs and suggestions for St. Paul.

The Lay Ministers have, indeed, been praying for the needs expressed and considering all suggestions.

Thank you!

It is time again for the renewal of **The Lutheran Witness**. If you would like to renew or **if you would like a new subscription**, the rate is \$18.00 for the annual subscription.

There are envelopes designated in the Narthex. Checks should be made to St. Paul Lutheran and either placed in the offering plate, dropped at the office, or mailed. **Cut-off date is August 12.**

## August Birthdays & Anniversaries

### August Birthdays

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Shanell George<br>3 <input type="checkbox"/> Jason Cunningham<br>4 <input type="checkbox"/> Allen Hamel<br>5 <input type="checkbox"/> June Davis<br>Patrick Raab<br>6 <input type="checkbox"/> Ava Ann Mesalles<br>7 <input type="checkbox"/> Garrett Fox<br>Caroline Hager<br>Craig Parry<br>8 - Anna Smith<br>9 <input type="checkbox"/> Kirk Hammel<br>Jerriann Holte<br>Adalyn Pfizenmaier<br>10 <input type="checkbox"/> Malissa Graham<br>Bryce Lehman<br>Don Oberland<br>Roger Osthoff<br>Blake Willmann<br>Ragan Willmann<br>11 <input type="checkbox"/> Gary Helms<br>Maverick Hoover<br>Emmalee Laffery<br>Aubrey Milligan<br>12 <input type="checkbox"/> Alyssa Kohlman<br>13 <input type="checkbox"/> Wendi Fox<br>Brad Froehlich<br>Natalie Hines<br>Patrick Patenaude<br>14 <input type="checkbox"/> Sharon Lehman<br>Jo Ann Pera | 16 <input type="checkbox"/> Kaden Anderson<br>Travis Meier<br>Bryce Urban<br>17— Mary Hartman<br>18 <input type="checkbox"/> Allison Bosch<br>Brandon Pfizenmaier<br>19 <input type="checkbox"/> Tanner Fox<br>Rebecca Kleinkauf<br>20 <input type="checkbox"/> Shantel Marrs<br>Scott Rickley<br>21 <input type="checkbox"/> Betty Jones<br>22 <input type="checkbox"/> Randy Behrends<br>Tyler Jensen<br>Kason Moody<br>Christian Ruiz<br>23 - Bayler Langvardt<br>Kiersten Williams<br>24 <input type="checkbox"/> Jessica Harding<br>25 <input type="checkbox"/> Derek Hilton<br>Breanna Hines<br>Zane Mader<br>28 <input type="checkbox"/> Jeff Germann<br>Annette Carson<br>Charles Novak<br>29 <input type="checkbox"/> Jeremy Cunningham<br>Kasey Ohlde<br>30 <input type="checkbox"/> Abbey Reed<br>Lyle Underwood<br>31 <input type="checkbox"/> Becky Bierbaum<br>Christy Jordan<br>Daniel Jordan |
|--|--|

### August Wedding Anniversaries

- 1 ☐ Doug & Linda Fowles, 1971  
 2 ☐ Allen & Julie Hamel, 1986  
 4 ☐ Alan & Brandee Berndt, 2001  
     Mike & Sara Bulk, 1990  
 5 ☐ Steve & Jan Peterson, 1972  
 6 ☐ James & Cindy Wohler, 1977  
 7 ☐ Jean & Kristy Estabine, 1997  
 8 - Keith & Shanell George, 2015  
 10 - Gary & Sarah Fredrickson, 1985  
 13 ☐ Stanton & Alice Lohmeyer, 1977  
 14 ☐ Al & Dianna Kuck, 1966  
 15 ☐ Cliff & Dee Noffsinger, 1959  
 17 ☐ Craig & Dana Rickley, 1991  
 18 ☐ Mark & Janet Willmann, 1984  
 19 ☐ Clyde & Rita Wollenberg, 1967  
 21 ☐ Gayle & Lynette Dunn, 1976  
 28 - Mark & Annette Carson, 2004  
 29 - Albert & Diane Lee, 1998



### OFFICIAL ACTS [Since last newsletter]

**Funeral: Larry Carlson, 07/23/2019**

### Scripture Readings for August

Date	Festival	First Reading	Psalm	Epistle	Gospel
Aug. 4	Eighth S. after Pente-cost	Eccl. 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-26	Psalm 100	Col. 3:1-11	Luke 12:13-21
Aug. 11	Ninth S. after Pente-cost	Gen. 15:1-6	Psalm 33:12-22	Heb. 11:1-16	Luke 12:22-34 (35-40)
Aug. 18	Tenth S. after Pente-cost	Jer. 23:16-29	Psalm 119:81-88	Heb. 11:17-31 (32-40); 12:1-3	Luke 12:49-53 (54-56)
Aug. 25	Eleventh S. after Pen-tecost	Is. 66:18-23	Psalm 50:1-15	Heb. 12:4-24 (25-29)	Luke 13:22-30

## Stewardship Devotion

### Are You Living as a Channel or Terminal?

#### Scripture Reading:

*"Whoever believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him" (John 7:38).*

Throughout life we receive and give. We must receive in order to give and live at all. God gives us all the resources and talents to make living and giving possible. Keeping what we have brings little or no blessing to us, certainly none to others. If we consume all of our time, possessions, and energy ourselves, we become empty, spiritually dead, unhappy, friendless people.

The need to give and the benefits of giving can be illustrated by contrasting the Sea of Galilee with the Dead Sea, both of which are located in the Holy Land. The Sea of Galilee receives water from the northern mountain streams, which then flows into the Jordan River. Because the sea allows water to flow through it, it lives. On its banks, flowers bloom and bushes grow. Birds and animals drink from its waters. People swim in it and enjoy water activities. Nearby communities enjoy the waterfront.

#### **Every One His Witness returns to St. Paul, Clay Center!**

Every One His Witness is a program designed to help Christians share their faith in a relaxed manner.

Please join us for this training scheduled for  
**August 10 from 9:00 - 4:00.**

Lunch will be provided.

If you have already attended the course and would like to join us for a refresher you are more than welcome!

Please let the church office know if you are able to be there by Aug. 2!

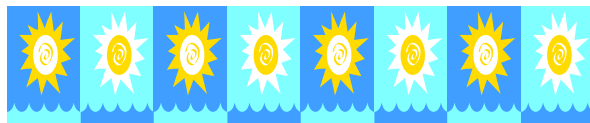
**We look forward to seeing you!**

The Jordan River flows south into the Dead Sea, which, having no outlet, keeps all the water it receives. The Dead Sea simply takes without giving. The water has become stagnant with no birds or animals willing to drink from it. No fish live in it. No plants spring up around it. There is no life; in fact, the water destroys life. The very fact that the sea takes without giving has created death in and around it. It is a reservoir rather than a channel. Just as there are these two different kinds of seas, there are two kinds of people. People who share nothing and serve no one act as terminals. They will end life unhappy, empty, and stagnant. Others are like the Sea of Galilee, a channel which receives and gives. Our purpose is to be channels of God's love and goodness. By His grace, God transforms us into generous givers willing to allow His blessings to flow through us to others.

When we focus on "I, me, mine, and myself," we take care of "number one" to the exclusion of others. Since others are not important, we don't look for opportunities to help or serve.

Individuals who act as channels of God's love and gifts put self aside. Jesus said, *"Whoever believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him" (John 7:38).* God refills serving people with more love, time, gifts, and abilities to share with others. *"And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work" (2 Corinthians 9:8).*

**Prayer:** Dear Lord, help me to be your mouth, hands, and feet in service to others. Let me not hoard Your blessings but allow them to flow through me to others. Amen.







**The National LCMS Youth Gathering** was held in Minneapolis, MN this past July. The youth group with a total of 9 high schoolers and 3 adult leaders packed up in a 15 passenger van and headed off to Minnesota on July 9th. We spent the first couple of days doing some fun activities like tubing on the Apple River in Wisconsin and visiting the Mall of America! Then, on Thursday the youth gathering officially began, the group had fun walking around the convention center, going to different sessions, walking around the interactive stations, and various other activities. We were also able to do an off site servant event where we helped a school weed and mulch garden beds. Then, in the evenings the group would go to the mass events where we worshiped our Real. Present. God. with over 20,000 youth from across the United States, which is a pretty special deal. From running a 5k, eating from food trucks all week, the group becoming closer to each other, and growing in our faith, the 2019 National Youth Gathering was an amazing experience. We appreciate the prayers and support you all gave us for this amazing opportunity to grow in our faith.



# August 2019

# ST. PAUL LUTHERAN

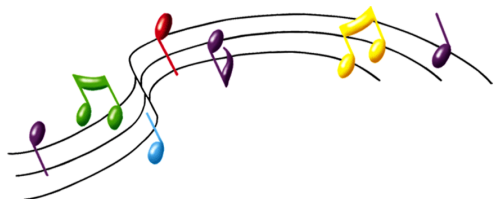
“Existing in God’s Love and forgiveness, St. Paul proclaims the gospel of Christ, helps people grow in faith, and nurtures lives of worship and service”

816 9th Street,  
Clay Center, Kansas 67432  
785-632-5301 [spluther@sbcglobal.net](mailto:spluther@sbcglobal.net)  
[www.claycenterlutheran.com](http://www.claycenterlutheran.com)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Worship Service with Holy Communion, 6:30 PM
<b>4</b> Holy Communion, 9:00 AM Christian Education, 10:15-11:00 Deaf Ministry in Topeka, 3:00	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Worship Service , 6:30 PM  9 AM—4 PM, Everyone His Witness
<b>11</b> Worship Service, 9:00 AM Christian Education, 10:15-11:00 Unified Boards, 1:00 PM Parish Director’s Meeting, 2:30 pm	<b>12</b> Men’s Bible Study, 7:00 PM	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Senior Meal, 11:30 AM	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Worship Service with Holy Communion, 6:30 PM
<b>18</b> Holy Communion, 9:00 AM Christian Education, 10:15-11:00 Deaf Ministry in Topeka, 3:00	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> <b>SEPT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b>  First Day of School	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Worship Service , 6:30 PM
<b>25</b> Worship Service, 9:00 AM Christian Education, 10:15-11:00  Apollo Outreach, 5:30 PM	<b>26</b> Men’s Bible Study, 7:00 PM	<b>27</b> Friendship Circle , 7:00 PM	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> Worship Service , 6:30 PM



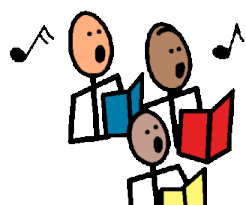
The music for the Contemporary service on the **third Saturday** will be played by Terri Parry.  
Starting Aug. 17



**Friendship Circle members** will continue to collect Mites for Missions on the **first Sunday** of every month.



Friendship Circle meeting  
August 27 at 7:00 PM  
Devotion/Hostess: Carolyn Brown  
Topic: Marlene Ohlde



The Little Apple  
Barbershop  
Chorus  
Will sing at our  
worship service on  
Aug 4.

## The Most Important Thing

But the Lord said to her, "My dear Martha, you are worried and upset over all these details!" Luke 10:41 (NLT)

Based on Luke 10:38-42



O C E P R J E S U S M W N U K  
B K H L R U V F H X I A O L P  
E Q B O P E N I E T M S R R J  
T M D Y S E P T L Q H I T Y K  
T A W C K E V A P L M I I E W  
E R B A K Z N Y R A A Z N W R  
R T T Q G W W U H A H G G G K  
Q H W A F F E E T N T G E H X  
D A O S E J T H K E B I Q T X  
G B R X L D W W S E O G O X I  
B Z R I E M N P T D T Q T N D  
B M I D K A U J Z E T N H H Y  
C M E G M D V F X D P Z O S Z  
U E D O F E Q U P S E T T A H  
N M W L D I S C I P L E S L T



USD 379  
School starts  
August 21

St. Paul Lutheran  
Preschool  
Starts  
Sept. 4

[1 Corinthians 16:14](#)

"Let all that you do be  
done in love."

THING  
BETTER  
FEET  
VILLAGE

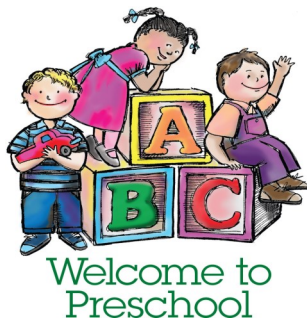
HELP  
TAKEN  
PREPARATION  
WORRIED

CHOSEN  
MADE  
DISCIPLES  
NEEDED

SISTER  
NEEDED  
JESUS  
UPSET

WOMAN  
MARY  
MARTHA  
WORK

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
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CLAY CENTER KS 67432



**A new school year is fast approaching!**

Becky Beichter is returning as a Preschool Aid for the 3-day AM class and the Tuesday, Thursday 2-day class. Rita Siebold will be a Preschool Aid for the Monday, Wednesday 2-Day Class and the afternoon 3-Day class. Shanna Sterling will be teaching two 2-Day 3-4 year old classes on Tuesday and Thursday and Monday and Wednesday. Susan Melton will be teaching a 3-day AM class and a 3-day PM class, both on Mon-

day, Wednesday, and Friday.

We have around 45 young people enrolled at this time. There are still spots available in each session, so if you know of anyone looking for a Preschool spot, please send them our way! The preschool e-mail account is [splpreschool@ymail.com](mailto:splpreschool@ymail.com) or they can contact the church at 632-5301. **Preschool will begin on Wednesday, September 4th this year.**

**Keep an eye on the Preschool bulletin board! For the next few weeks, we will have a list of supplies and/or miscellaneous items that the preschool needs. The bulletin board is located on the west side of the Narthex.**

Please keep the preschool and our families in your prayers! We are looking forward to a fun and productive school year!

Praying and Playing,  
Becky, Rita, Shanna, and Susan