Pastor’s Meditation

Dear Friends in Christ,

They say that the truest picture of your character is what you do when no one else is watching.

Isn’t that why most crimes happen after dark or behind closed doors? When it appears that no one is able to see what we’re doing, we might think that we can sin without ever being caught. So the Apostle Paul wrote, "It is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret" (Ephesians 5:12).

In general, we are very aware of the way we think and speak when we are gathered together with other Christians. The time we share in worship, in Bible study, and in prayer is time we want to dedicate to the Lord.

But what about our free time? What happens when no one else is watching? We work all day for a free evening, all week for a free weekend, all our lives for a comfortable retirement. To whom do we dedicate that most precious time of all, our time off?

It is shameful to mention, isn’t it? When it comes to free time, private time, rest time, we love to serve ourselves.

Not Jesus! After all His work was done and He had earned some precious time alone, "Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed" (Luke 5:16).

Shame on us!
But read those same words again, and remember: everything Jesus did, God counts to your credit. “In Him, we become the righteousness of God,” said Paul (2 Corinthians 5:21). So as shameful as it is to mention what the disobedient do in secret, it is doubly glorious to know what Jesus has done in broad daylight. He dedicated every moment of His life to God in perfect obedience. Now when God looks at us, He sees only Christ.

This explains why the psalmist, a sinner like the rest of us, used his time in the dark not for something shameful, but for something praiseworthy. “At midnight I rise to give you thanks for your righteous laws,” he said (Psalm 119:62). He’d been forgiven, and he knew it!

Our home devotions and personal prayer life spring from the same source. In peace, in forgiveness, in joy, we can dedicate our free time also to Jesus Christ, our Savior and our Lord. In this month is Thanksgiving! Let us not forget to take some of our free-time and give thanks and praise to God for all the blessings He has showered down upon us. The Lord be with you!

In Christ’s Love, +
Pastor Cody
Psalm 84:10

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Worldview—Wichita Falls
A Daily Devotional Thought & Church Happenings Report

Pastor Cody is sending out a daily devotional thought and short announcement email. If you would like to receive this email, or you know someone who would benefit from this daily form of information, please send Pastor your/their email address and he will get them on the list. Please send your email addresses to: revcody11@gmail.com

Don’t forget to go to your Pastor’s Bible class this weekend! We are studying the book of Romans on Sunday and 2 Samuel on Monday nights at 6-8 PM.

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Bible Trivia…How Good Are You?

1. How was John the Baptist related to Jesus?
   A. Second Cousin
   B. Cousin
   C. Uncle
   D. Brother

2. In what trade did Jesus work as a young man?
   A. Shipbuilding
   B. Carpentry
   C. Farming
   D. Metalwork

   A. Colossians & Galations
   B. Galations & The Acts
   D. Luke & Colossians

4. What was Luke’s occupation?
   A. Soldier
   B. Fisherman
   C. Tax Collector
   D. Physician

5. Which famous missionary did Luke travel and teach with?
   A. Paul
   B. Peter
   C. John
   D. James

6. Which of these narratives was recorded only by Luke?
   A. the turning of water to wine
   B. visit of Gabriel to Mary (The Annunciation)
   C. raising Lazarus from the dead
   D. visit of the wise men

7. Which of these narratives was recorded only by Luke?
   A. the woman at the well
   B. Jesus ascension
   C. visit of Nicodemus
   D. visit of the shepherds to baby Jesus

8. Which of these narratives was recorded only by Luke?
   A. Jesus washing the feet of His Apostles
   B. Jesus teaching in the temple as a 12-year old
   C. Jesus cleansing the temple
   D. Jesus’ sermon on the mount

(Answers on page 12)
Pictorial Directory
125th Anniversary Edition

We are in the process of gathering photos for St. Paul’s 125th Anniversary year to commemorate those belonging to the church currently as we celebrate this year. We will be doing this directory in-house, and Randal Schoppa has graciously volunteered his time and camera to take the family photos. We will be asking all members to come downstairs after church where the photos will be taken. The photo taking will continue this month, so be looking in the Minor Prophet (Announcements) for more information about this.

We are also calling on any and all activity page photos (which would be church fellowship and activity pictures) you might have to be included in the directory as well.

We would like to include in this directory everyone’s cell phone numbers and current email addresses. Please send this information into the church office ASAP.

Thank you all in advance for your willingness to help us get our directory together.
Our German Festival was a huge success! Everyone from the youngest to the oldest seemed to have a great time as we spent time with our church family. A big thank you to everyone (and there are many) who helped make this event happen. A special thanks to Darla, Ben, Judy, Ruth and many others who went above and beyond to make this day special.

Our next fun and games date will be Sunday, November 3, at 4:00PM. Come out and join us for dominoes and cards. Bring your favorite snack to share and bring a friend along with you! See y’all there!

Catechism Memory Work for St. Paul Youth

The Apostles’ Creed & Meanings

We wish to thank those who served last month:
Organist: Kathy Schkade
Elders: Kenneth Schkade, William Parker, Ben Inglish
Sound man/PowerPoint: Ben Inglish
Altar Guild: Nancy Martinez, Debra Truette (setup) Audra Baber, Julie Wuthrich (take-down) (And all members!)
Greeters: Nancy Martinez, and all greeters
Ushers: Randal Schoppa, Eugene Kruger… and all who volunteer on Sundays
All Church Council members
All Board and Committee members
Treasurer: Kathy Kabell

The St. Paul Epistle is published monthly by:
St. Paul Lutheran Church
1417 11th Street P.O. Box 126
Wichita Falls, TX 76307
Phone: (940) 322-6112
www.stpaulwftx.org Email: stpaulwftx@att.net

The Rev. Rick Cody………………….Pastor
Cell Phone: 832-745-3314 Email: revcody11@gmail.com
Kathy Schkade……………………….Organist
Lisa Schur………………….Parish Office Worker
Memorials

In Memory of Carolyn Smith to 125th Anniversary by Alan & Priscilla Holz.

In Memory of Norma Flick by Tim & Emilie Sherrod.

A Living Tribute in honor of Ken & Kathy Schkade for their dedicated service to the North Campus by Ben & Darla Inglish.

A Living Tribute in honor of Jesse Flick and Ruth Rathgeber by Tim & Emilie Sherrod.

In memory of Norma Flick by Terri Skinner.

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Check out our website!
www.stpaulwftx.org

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Adult Education

The Adult Bible Class meets every Sunday morning before Divine Service. Our goal is to have 40 people in Adult Bible Study. We want to come together and study God’s Word, and reap the benefits that God promises to those who remain in His Word (John 8:31-32). We are now studying the book of Romans. I think that you will find this class interesting and thought-provoking. Please plan on joining us each Sunday morning at 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Because of the continued interest in the Adult Catechism Classes, Pastor Cody is teaching Continuous Adult Catechism Instruction to study together what it is that Lutherans believe, teach, and confess. This class meets weekly on Monday nights at 6:00 p.m. Those wanting to become members of St. Paul can join the class at any time, and once through the series of lessons, they can be confirmed into communicant membership of the church. If you are interested in taking this class, please come out and join us! At this time we are studying the Book of 2 Samuel. Come join us…. You’ll love it!

Sunday school for all ages starts at 9:00AM each Sunday morning. The Scriptures are clear, “Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.” (Prov. 22:6). Bring the kids out and stay for Adult Bible study yourselves and teach them the proper habit to be in as the spiritual leaders of your homes! See y’all there!

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TRIVIA ANSWERS:

1. A. Second cousin
2. B. Carpentry
4. D. Physician
5. A. Paul
6. B. Visit of Gabriel to Mary (The Annunciation)
7. D. Visit of the shepherds to baby Jesus
8. B. Jesus teaching in the temple as a 12-year-old

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If you or someone you know needs a ride to Divine Service or any other church activity, please call the church office at (940) 322-6112 and we will see what we can do to arrange that for you.

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Middle School Youth Catechism Class

We have young people that will be gathering together each week to demonstrate to their parents, and their Lord, the importance of this journey in their faith walk. Catechesis is the teaching of our Lord that is drawn from the Holy Scriptures, confessed in the Small Catechism, and expressed in Divine Service. Please pray for them as they study the Word of God and complete this important stage in their lives. The class is open to any and all from the 5th grade through the 8th grade. We meet on Wednesday evenings at 5:00 p.m.
City Lights Parade in Wichita Falls will be Saturday, November 23, 2019. Parade decorating will begin at 1:30pm, and the parade itself will start (lining floats up) 5:00pm. We need as many people as possible to get the float ready. We will be doing a time period style float titled “125 years of Christmas Carols” wearing costumes in the era of 1894, which is our 125th anniversary year. So, come on out and join us as we continue our anniversary activities, while spreading some Christmas cheer to our community! Last year we didn’t have our float, so this year we want to make sure we have an entry. Hope to see y’all there!

This year we will be having our annual Thanksgiving Eve worship service with the Lord’s Supper on Wednesday, November 27, at 7:00PM. Come out and join us as we give thanks to our God, through His Son, Jesus Christ, and in the Holy Spirit for all the many blessings and gifts He bestows on us throughout the year.
Days to Celebrate in November

Birthdays
2nd- Declan Lewis
7th- Shelby Buckmaster
17th- Alexander Myers
18th- Britton Horton
19th- Riley Brincefield
21st- Clara Buckmaster

Wedding Anniversaries
2nd- Kenneth & Holly Theimer (46)
11th- Bobby & Tracy Scarber (30)
20th- Al & Delores Palmatary (49)
25th- Jim & Karen Reeves (42)

Please Pray

Please continue to pray on a daily basis for:
+ Pastor, Michelle & Cameron Cody
+ Kathy & Kenneth Schkade
+ Lisa Schur, Parish Office Worker
+ The leadership of our church, all boards and committee members.
+ The mission of Paul Lutheran Church.
+ All those sick or suffering in our church family.
+ Church unity.
+ Our nation and governmental leaders.

Prayers of God’s People

FOR - THOSE WITH CANCER:
Jeanette Evans, Jamie Kllum, Dennis Keethler, Virginia Martinez, Hank Roten, Lee Shores, Kay Castleberry, and Guinola Huneycutt.

PHYSICAL AND OTHER CONCERNS:
Betty Corder, Brantley French, Duncan Hibbard, Claudia Kelley, Ronnie Newman, Kellen Osborne, Barbara Roten, Mark Lehman, Delores LaBlanc, Ashley Schroeder, Tyler Sherrard, and Ellen Fisher.

Rehab: Jesse Flick (Windmill Rehab)

HOMEBOUND/SHUT-IN MEMBERS: Dorothy Kutzler (Royal Estates), Ruby Swartz (Royal Estates), Virginia Hendricks (Rolling Meadows), Lois Kramer (Rolling Meadows).

ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY PERSONNEL: Whitney Brown (Air Force), Eli Buckmaster (Marine Corps), Brian Clayton (Army), Kate Ridinger Dozier (Navy), Zachary Wied (Army)
Lutheran Women’s Missionary League Grant #4 — God’s Grace for This Generation

LAMP Ministry Inc. — $100,000

Nearly one million indigenous people live in isolated areas of northern Canada; half of whom are under the age of 14. Statistics show that over 15 percent of the youth in these areas will take their own lives out of despair and hopelessness. LAMP Ministry Inc. goes into these communities with vacation Bible school, Bible studies, and one-on-one testimonies of the hope provided through faith in Jesus. This grant will allow LAMP to hire more missionary pilots and train more volunteers so that these communities will receive Christian education and the witness of the Gospel.

In order to fulfill their mission of sharing the Gospel, LAMP needs to expand the number of staff who go into the isolated communities of northern Canada. Here, where nearly one million indigenous people live, staff will bring VBS, Bible studies, and personal testimonies of the hope found through faith in Jesus. This witness is the only source of personal Christian education or witness of the Gospel available to these people, where statistically over 15 percent of children and youth in this area will try to take their own lives out of despair and hopelessness. To learn more about this mission grant, go to www.lwml.org/2019-2021-mission-grant-4.

Faith Mission

The immediate needs of Faith Mission are as follows:
1. Deodorant (men & women)
2. Canned goods
3. Razors (men & women)
4. Gently used/new jackets in adult and children’s

We will be serving our quarterly pizza dinner at Faith Mission on Saturday, November 9, 2019, starting at 6:30-8:30. You are always welcome to join us as we feed and serve those less fortunate with Jesus hands and voice as we give physical and spiritual food. The worship service begins at 7:30PM.

Our Women’s Bible Study will be on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month of October at 9:30 AM. They invite all women interested to come for some thought-provoking bible study and great fellowship.

Monday Night Bible Study on 2 Samuel at 6 PM