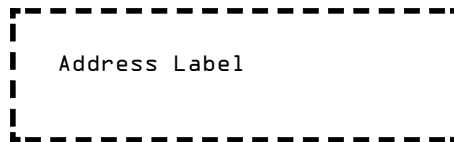
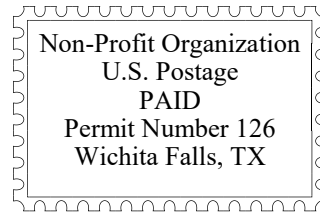




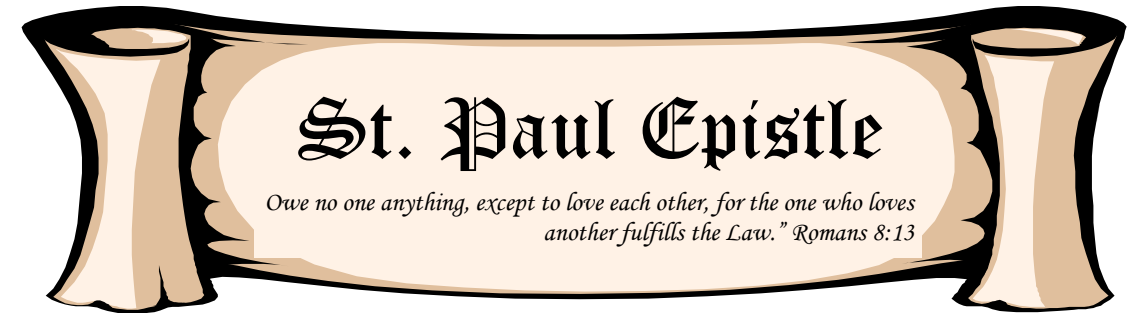
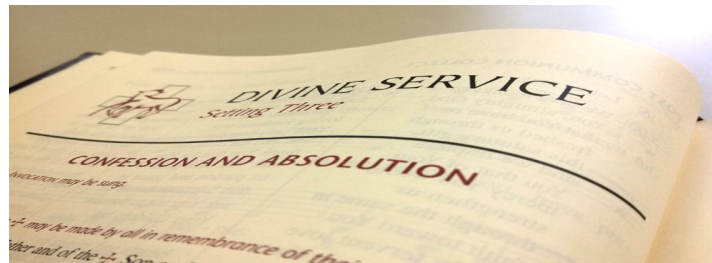
St. Paul Lutheran Church
1417 11th Street, P.O. Box 126
Wichita Falls, TX 76307



Our Weekly Divine Service Schedule

Sunday

9:00 a.m. Sunday School & Bible Class
10:15 a.m. Divine Service
(The Lord's Supper is offered every Sunday at St. Paul)



St. Paul Lutheran Church is a congregation of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

Volume 3

September 2020

Issue 8

A glance inside this issue:

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Pastor's Meditation

"We also triumph in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance" (Romans 5:3).

Greetings in Jesus friends in Christ!

Here we are again, back to newsletter production. Just another sign that things are settling down in life and things are slowly beginning to get back to a sense of normalcy. This will still be a slow process, but one that I think is headed in the right direction. Praise be to God... He does all things well!

Over the past six months, we've been through some very frustrating and discouraging times. We've had our faith tested, challenged, and tried. We've held steady...we've kept the faith. We've trusted in God even when things were out of our control and in the midst of helplessness. So, was the last six months a waste? No! I believe it made all of us stop and take inventory of the important things in life and turned our eyes to focus on Jesus and trust Him more; which is a GOOD THING!

This hasn't been easy, but the Christian life never is. The Christian life is a lesson in trusting God in the midst of cross bearing and difficulty. One of the terms for "tribulation" in the New Testament

(Continued on page 2)

Pastor's Meditation Cont.,

refers to “pressure...like being crushed under a big boulder.” This is a description of pain, of enduring strain. It’s an illustration of the crush of our times. There’s a certain kind of pressure that comes with unemployment. There’s another kind of pressure that comes with the threat of losing your home. There’s a pressure that comes from misfortune, or a rebellious child, or a runaway spouse, or with contracting COVID-19. All of life can be a series of crushing pressure and can leave us frustrated and discouraged.

Does God care about the pressures of life that we experience? If you were wondering, the answer would be a resounding, “Yes!” God does care. God knows about the number of hairs on your head. God knows when a sparrow falls to the ground. The Scriptures declare, *“Indeed, the very hairs on your head are all numbered. Don’t be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows”* (Luke 12:7). Be assured of this: Jesus is a specialist in the things that worry you down inside. Jesus is a specialist in the trials and tribulations in life. Jesus is a specialist in temptation and the overcoming of such. Jesus knows that you can get through tomorrow’s troubles, and the troubles of the next day, and the next week, and the next year because He has overcome whatever may come our way. If you wonder how you’re ever going to get “through this,” remember who Jesus is. Jesus is the God of the impossible. Look to what He specializes in. He can take any situation that you’ve built into a mountain and can bore a tunnel through in a matter of seconds. Jesus says, “Bring it to Me...all of it...and I will give you rest.” Don’t get discouraged...trust in Jesus!

In Christ’s Love, +

Pastor Cody
Psalm 84:10

See passages of comfort, hope, peace, and encouragement on page 4.

(Continued on Page 4)

STEWARDSHIP

“Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might” (Eccl 9:10).

God bids us to be faithful in the tasks He calls us to do. He calls us to be members of a family (husbands and wives; fathers and mothers; sons and daughters). He calls us to be members of society (those who govern and those who are governed). And He calls us to be members of His family, the Church (those who preach and teach and those who hear and learn). Each of these callings from God places a duty on us.

As members of a family, husbands are given the duty to die for their wives as Christ gave His life for His bride, the Church; while wives are given the duty to respect their husbands and submit themselves to them as the Church does to Christ. Fathers and mothers are to raise their children in the fear and admonition of the Lord, teaching them the Ten Commandments, the Creed, the Lord’s Prayer, and the Scriptures concerning Baptism, Confession, the Office of the Keys, and the Lord’s Supper. Children are to honor their parents throughout their lives, and even when their parents are no longer alive, serving and obeying them, loving and cherishing them, and speaking well of them.

As members of society, God calls those who govern to bear the sword, that is, to punish those who do evil (those who live contrary to God’s will) and to reward those who do good (those whose lives are lived in conformity with God’s will). Those who are governed are to obey their leaders as to the Lord Himself, for their leaders bear the sword of God’s temporal justice for a purpose.

As members of God’s own family, the Church, He calls those who preach and teach to do so in faithfulness to His holy Word. To preach and teach the Law of God to convict the hearts of hearers of their sin and to encourage, admonish, and exhort them to do good works in accordance with God’s will. They are to preach and teach the Gospel, the full forgiveness of their sins accomplished by Christ and received through faith, not by works. They are to administer the means of grace in accordance with the Gospel and the Word of God. They do all this for the young and old alike, for those who are near and far off. Those who hear and learn are to submit themselves to their preachers and teachers. They are to support them by their prayers and their gifts.

Each of these callings from God place a duty on us. They make a claim on our presence; on our prayers; and our time, talents, and treasures. So, “Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might” (Eccl 9:10). Pray for your family, your government, and your church. Give of yourself by means of your time, your talents, and your treasures to your family, your government, and your Church. That is what it means to be faithful in the tasks that God has given us. That is what it means to do it with all your might.



Dear friends at St. Paul!

We are planning to have a First Responders Appreciation Luncheon on Saturday, October 3, 2020. The lunch service will run from 11AM-1PM.

With all that has happened with COVID, the riots and protests, and many who have put themselves on the front lines working with COVID patients, etc., we want to say thank you to them for their service.

We plan to serve hotdogs and bottled water in a drive-through fashion in our church parking lot. We will take orders and then do a "no-touch" (as much as possible, of course) delivery of the order to the cars in the lot.

At this time we are looking for volunteers who would be willing to help with the luncheon. We will be requesting a Thrivent card to help defray the costs and will be ordering T-shirts that we will be wearing as we serve.

If you are willing to help out, please let someone on the Board of Evangelism, me know, or simply call the church office 940-322-6112. We need all the help we can get. Thank you in advance and if you have any thoughts or suggestions that can make this an even better event, please don't hesitate to share those.

___ I would like to volunteer for this event (Name) _____

___ I cannot volunteer, but would like to support in this way _____



Father,/Daughter/Son
Dove Hunt

Saturday, September (TBA)
There will be more to this announcement when I get it
(Food, time, place, etc.)

FUN AND GAMES

Our next fun and games date will be **Sunday, September 27th at 4:00 PM.** 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!



Thank you very, very much for the special 90th birthday recognition. IT IS BEAUTIFUL. Though my family could not be with me, I was given lots of attention. Cards and phone call were wonderful. I miss worshipping with all of you and pray God's blessing on St. Paul and Pastor Cody's ministry.

Love Lois Kramer

Thank you for all your prayers, cards, and well wishes. It's good to have friends who lift you up in prayer. God's blessings to you all.

Jack Spence

Here are some Bible Passages of comfort, hope and encouragement.

(Cont. from pg.2)

Verses of Peace and Comfort

2 Corinthians 1:3-4 Our God is known as “the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in our troubles...”

John 14:18– Jesus said, “I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.”

Phillippians 4:7 “And the peace of God, which passes all understanding shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus”

Romans 15:13- “may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him.”

John 14:16– Jesus prays to the Father to give believers another comforter. “And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor.”

Psalm 119:76- “may your unfailing love be my comfort according to your promise.”

Matthew 5:4- “Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.”

John 14:27: “peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.”

Verses Concerning God’s Presence

Exodus 33:14- “My presence will go with you and I will give you rest.” [Spoken to Moses]

Haggai 1:13- “I am with you, declares the Lord.”

Isaiah 58:11- “the Lord shall guide you continually...”

Isaiah 43:2- “when you pass thru the waters, I will be with you.”

Isaiah 41:10- “So do not fear, for I am with you.”

Zephaniah 3:17- “The Lord your God is in your midst.”

Catechism Memory Work for St. Paul Youth
1st Commandment and Meaning

The current needs for Faith Mission:

- Toothpaste
- Deodorant (men/women)
- Medicine for clinic (allergy medicine/ decongestant, Mucinex, MiraLAX, and Colace– unopened and unexpired)
- Postage stamps
- Copy paper



If your child needs a ride to Catechism instruction, we will be happy to provide that service to you. Please contact the church office and let us know. William Parker, Janice Wiechman and/or myself will be picking the kids



We wish to thank those who served last month:

Organist: Kathy Schkade, Darla English

Elders: Kenneth Schkade, William Parker, Ben English, Kevin Copeland

Sound man/PowerPoint: Ben English

Altar Guild: Delores Palmatary (setup) Michelle Cody, Leanne Roten (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
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Phone: (940) 322-6112

www.stpaulwftx.org † Email: stpaulwf@att.net

The Rev. Rick Cody..... Pastor

Cell Phone: 832-745-3314 †

Email: revcody11@gmail.com

Kathy Schkade.....Organist

Lisa Schur Parish Office Worker



In Memory of Debra Lamb to the Altar Guild by:

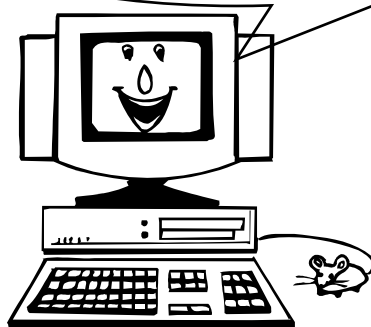
Janice Wiechman
Hank & Judy Hancock
Vicki Holland
Ruth Rathgeber
Larry & Nancy Martinez
Virginia Martinez

In Memory of James Wiechman Sr. to the Altar Guild by Chad & Janna Buckmaster.

In Memory of Ben Buerger to St. Paul Lutheran Church & Altar Guild:
Janice Wiechman
Vicki Holland

In Memory of Christy Ridinger to St. Paul Lutheran Church by Janice Wiechman.

Check out our website!
www.stpaulwftx.org



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 John. 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 "Has American Christianity Failed". Come join us..... You'll love it!

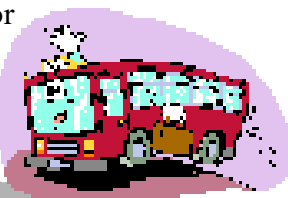


Sunday school for all ages starts at 9:00AM each Sunday morning. The Scriptures are clear, "Train up a child in the way he should go: and **when he is old, he will not depart from it.**" (Prov. 22:6). Bring the kids out and stay for Adult Bible study yourselves and teach them the proper habit to be in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

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.

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.





St. Paul Lutheran Is Planning To: Give it Away!

The Voters' Assembly of St. Paul voted on Sunday, February 16, 2020, to adopt the "Give it Away" campaign for 2020. Our goal is to raise \$5,000.00 for this first year to simply just "Give it Away." We would like to focus our efforts towards single-parent families this calendar year. We know that there are many single parents who struggle to provide things for their children whether it be clothes, food, school supplies, or even toys. This coming December, we are going to have a church delivery committee who will hand delivering the checks so these single parents and children can have a blessed Christmas this year. If you are interested in a life-changing ministry opportunity and would like to be a part of this amazing group to deliver these gifts, please get in contact with Pastor Cody. Your life will be forever changed when you see Christ's words in action...*"It's better to give than to receive!"* There will be an offering box in the back of the church for the duration of 2020 to receive funds for this ministry. Please consider giving generously and may God bless our endeavors! To Him be all glory!

God's People at Work during September

Elders

William Parker
Kenneth Schkade
Ben English
Kevin Copeland

Ushers

Randal Schoppa
Eugene Krueger
Hank Hancock

Altar Duty

Set Up: Claudia Kelley
Take Down: Michelle
Cody & Leanne Roten

Greeters

Sept. 6- Del Tech & Penny Becker
Sept. 13- Lean Roten & Michelle Cody
Sept. 20- Delores Palmatary, Ruth
Rathgeber
Sept. 27- Pam Marten, Nancy Martinez

Readers

Sept. 6—Ken Schkade
Sept. 13- Pastor Cody
Sept. 20—Eugene Krueger
Sept. 27- Kenneth Theimer

Days to Celebrate in September

Birthdays

3rd Janice Wiechman
 4th Michelle Cody
 8th Bo Hardi
 14th Keith Kruger
 17th Stephen Myers
 19th Jamie Rangel

20th Callie Theimer
 29th Delores Palmatary
 30th David Schneider



Wedding Anniversaries

14th Freddie & Annie Smith (51)
 16th Hank & Judy Hancock (13)



Please Pray

Please continue to pray on a daily basis for:

- ✦ Pastor, Michelle & Cameron Cody
- ✦ Kathy & Kenneth Schkade
- ✦ Darla & Ben English
- ✦ 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, Janie Khlum, Dennis Keethler, Virginia Martinez, Lee Shores, Kay Castleberry, Guin Huneycutt, Dan Cullers, Yvette Groover, Chad Brown, and Staci Myles.



PHYSICAL AND OTHER CONCERNS:

Betty Corder, Brantley French, Duncan Hibbard, Claudia Kelley, Ronnie Newman, Kellen Osborne, Barbara Roten, Mark Lehman, Tyler Sherrod, Ellen Fisher, Richard Schroeder, Jane Schroeder, Jack Spence, and **Jesse Flick**.

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

Special Needs: Kyle Townes and unborn baby Townes

ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY PERSONNEL: Whitney Brown (Air Force), Eli Buckmaster (Marine Corps), Brian Clayton (Army), Kate Ridinger Dozier (Navy), Zachary Wied (Army), Jaydon Martinez (Navy), Trent Meisel (USAF), Richard Townes (Army)



The following Mission Grants were approved during the Texas District Virtual Convention on June 21, 2021.

- Scholarships for Seminarians — Texas District LCMS \$40,000
- Mercy Meals — Orphan Grain Train \$5,000 DCE Scholarships
- Concordia University Texas \$24,000
- Blessings and Bibles — Lutheran Disaster Care \$15,000
- Lutheran Student Center Improvements — Lubbock \$20,000
- Urban Base Camp Outreach — Camp Lone Star \$15,000
- Creating a Network of Hope — Driving Hope of Texas \$20,000
- Let the Little Children Come — St. Paul, Dallas \$20,000
- E-Kids After School Program — Expansion Ministries, Inc. \$20,000
- Laundry Love — St. Paul, San Antonio \$12,000
- Reaching Immigrants and Refugees — Multi-Ethnic Ministry of North Texas \$10,084
- Translating LWML Bible Studies — WORDrus \$9,243
- Total (includes mission abundance of \$10,327 from 2018–2020) \$210,327

The **LWML Ladies Group** will meet on **Thursday, September 17**, at 9:15AM. All ladies interested are very welcome to join them!



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



NEWS FROM THE LWML/TABITHA JOY

Tabitha Joy LWML (Lutheran Women’s Missionary League) will be meeting on **September 17th** at 9:15 AM. All women are invited to join us in fellowship, learning about current mission grants both local and national, inspirational Bible study, and how we may Serve the Lord with Gladness! If you have questions you may contact Kathy Schkade at 940-867-2743.

The Tabitha Joy LWML will be assembling personal care kits for world missions this year. We will be starting to collect items for the kits starting this month. These items will be collected and delivered in November 2020.

The need is very great! Many remember the tornado that went through Wichita Falls and the sense of loss when everything is gone in a moment. As we look back on 2019, we have seen so many natural disasters and wars. So many people lost and in need of the most simple items such as a personal care kit.

The items for the kits are very specific as sent to us from Lutheran World Relief:

- 1 Bath Size bar of soap, totaling 8-9 oz. (unscented) if possible
- 1 adult sized toothbrush in its original packaging
- 1 sturdy comb (no picks or fine-toothed combs)
- Metal nail clippers (attached file optional)
- Light-weight bath-sized towel (20”x40” to 52”x27”) dark color recommended

As always, your money is always welcomed and appreciated if you are not a shopper and it will help with the shipping of the items. Thank you!

