



The Messenger *July 2021*

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

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FROM PASTOR MUSE

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge. Proverbs 1:7

The second week of our study on Proverbs we came to this verse from King Solomon. This verse is the very foundation of the book and quite truthfully one of the foundational statements of our relationship with God. There are two key words in this verse, and I want to make sure we are clear about each of them.

The first is fear. Commonly the use of the word fear elicits terror. Fear experienced when riding a roller coaster or the fear experienced when speaking in front of people. This is an accurate use of the word but a limited scope of its definition. There is a portion of God that does elicit terror. We see throughout the Old Testament the God of wrath, who destroys the Egyptian and other mighty nations. We encounter a God of terror, who sends poisonous snakes into the camp of the people and allows invading armies to destroy the promised land. There is a side to God that draws terror, but that is not the definition of fear that King Solomon is reaching for in this proverb.

King Solomon is drawing on the view of fear as awe, admiration, and reverence. This is a different and more accurate way of approaching God. We know that God has the capability of ending the entire creation with the blink of an eye, but that God chooses not to enact that level of power causes us to be in awe of

such restraint. The power and righteousness of God is beyond what we can ever imagine and yet God chooses love and grace over wrath and punishment sets us in a place of reverence and admiration. We see God as a loving creator who knows far more than we ever could and showers on us blessings more than we could ever create by ourselves. We comprehend that God is far more than we could ever be, and yet still has the desire to be close to us and care for us. These attributes of God create an understanding that God is worthy of every honor and praise, as well as acknowledgement that God is greater than we could ever be. The fear of the Lord King Solomon points to here, is a complete awe, admiration, and reverence for the maker of heaven and earth. God above all else, king of kings, lord of lords, for all time and forever. Putting God in his rightful place, on the throne.

The second word is beginning. When we grasp the understanding of fear that King Solomon has presented it is the beginning, the start of true knowledge. Many want to think that once they know the lord, once they profess Jesus there is nothing left to gain. Or once they reach a certain age, they have accumulated all they need for their spiritual life, but that is not true.

Our accumulation and application of knowledge starts with the fear of the

Continues on pg. 2

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

From Pastor Muse Cont. Did You Know? From Pastor Thompson	2
Adult Education & Fellowship Christian Education July Birthdays	3
Music & Worship Summer Worship Schedule Family Pictures Eternal Flame Dedication	4
Lectionary Readings for July	5
July Calendar	6
Hospital Admittance Printer Ink Cartridges Memorial Service Weddings	7
Worship in July & August	8

Meditation Online

Thursday, July 1,
at 10:30 am (online) &
Tuesday, July 20,
at 7:00 pm (in-person
outside).

There is no experience needed. Wear comfortable clothes and enjoy a time of peace, quiet, and centering.

Continued from page 1.

Lord, but it expands out through our entire lifetime. Learning about God and applying that knowledge to our journey is a lifelong investment. God wants his children to keep learning, growing, expanding our knowledge and practice of God's ways. Learning more and more then putting it to use for the betterment of God's kingdom in the world. There is never a point when we should stop gaining knowledge. The process begins with our fear of

the Lord, and it doesn't end until our baptism is complete. Let the awe, admiration and reverence of the Lord be the foundation of your journey and begin to acquire the knowledge of God, then use what you have acquired in living the fullest life possible for the Glory of God.

Soli Deo Gloria,

Pastor Muse

DID YOU KNOW?

Members of St. Paul's, who are now gone, have left a treasure of items that soon are forgotten after they have passed on and time flies by. The items this month are not soon forgotten. They are the flowers that grace our sanctuary nearly every Sunday. If the flowers are purchased from DeHoffs Flowers, they are chosen and arranged by one of our members, Diane Green. She ALWAYS makes sure the flowers match your wishes and does it beautifully. Her parents were Ralph and Sally Green, who are now deceased.

FROM PASTOR THOMPSON

BE SALT, NOT SALTY

Jesus said, "You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot."

(Matthew 5:13)

When Jesus was teaching on the mountainside, he compared disciples to salt. By bringing the Good News to the world, we were like salt. Salt enhances and lifts the other flavors of food. We are Gospel Salt as we, too, enhance and lift the best out of other people.

A disciple that is not sharing the Gospel is salt without flavor. We become a useless item for the Kingdom of God. How are you salting the earth? Our current culture

encourages us to be salty. (Salty, when used as slang, means being bitter when things do not go our way.) Jesus does not want us to be salty: to flavor the world with our bitterness. We are to be salt. The seasoning that makes the world brighter by revealing the love, grace, and mercy of God.

Let's sprinkle the Gospel everywhere we go! Be the salt of the earth that Christ calls you to be!

Peace,

Pastor Diana Thompson

ADULT EDUCATION AND FELLOWSHIP

Wednesday Bible Studies

Online Study of the *Book of Romans*. The series will be posted each Wednesday at 9:00 am and cross post on the church's social media.

In-person Bible Study of the *Book of Proverbs*. On Wednesday's, at 10:00 am. We will meet each week outside, weather permitting. Bring a lawn chair and enjoy some time together.

Sunday Bible Study

The Gospel of Luke

Sundays at 9:00 am online

The study will be on Pastor Diana's YouTube channel. A link also will be posted on our social media and website.

Adult Check-in

Thursday evenings at 9:30 pm. Pastor Tim and Pastor Diana are hosting a video conference for any adults who want to chat with other adults. We have had great conversation and laughter.

If you would like to join us please email Pastor Diana, TheRev.Thompson@gmail.com. She will send you the information you need to join in!

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

I hope everyone is having a wonderful summer! I also hope everyone is enjoying this beautiful weather!

Are you enjoying the new Bible stories and activities? We are looking forward to being back in person in August for our specialized VBS program! Then in September, we will start back with our traditional Sunday school program!!

Our August VBS program will begin Sunday, August 8th and go for three Sundays! The program will run from 3 pm-4:30 pm. We are looking forward to seeing all of you! We will be outdoor for Sunday fun days, including Bible stories, games/activities, and fun! Free take-home dinner meals will

be available for families on these evenings as well! Come out, enjoy and leave the cooking to us! The dates will be August 8th, 15th, 22nd. Please follow the messenger and Facebook page for more information! We look forward to seeing all of you!

With Gods Love,

Brianne Black and the education committee

Happy July Birthday to You!

May you enjoy many more and may God bless each one of you in many ways as you enjoy another year in God's grace.

1 – Linda McClarren
2 – Sara Picone
2 – Jani Middleton
2 - Whitney Jo Wallace
3 – Matthew Rill
4 – Allison Bailey
4 – Samuel Hays
5 – Jacob Kridler
6 – Jacob Craig
8 – Kyle Hoopes
10 – Donna Cubick
10 - Joan Huffman

13 – Madge Peters
13 – Howard Pifer
15 – Danielle Saunier
16 – Jeff Hunter
16 – Paige Burnworth
17 – Ryan Davidson
18 – Sandi Fiegenschuh
19 – Rodney Campbell
20 – Kayleigh Wonner
22 – Terry Dennis
22 – Susan Henschen
23 – Cindy Miller

23 – Ruby Garroway
24 – Allison Castina
25 – Tricia George
26 – Ron Castina
26 – Gayle Fiegenschuh
28 – Dale Boyce
28 – Barbara Hunt
30 – Lorraine Franks
30 – Pearl Schuller



MUSIC & WORSHIP

Music & Worship Committee will not be meeting in July. Please see Gina Falconer if you have anything that needs to be discussed before August.

New Ushers and Lectors are welcome. Please contact Gina Falconer to learn more about these opportunities to serve in worship.

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE CHANGES!

Sundays

This summer we will have **one worship service at 9:30 am on Sundays through the months of July, and August.** All services will be in person and live streamed on Facebook and YouTube.

First Saturdays

Will continue throughout the summer we will be having a **First Saturday outdoor worship at 5 pm.** This will take place the first Saturday of July, and August. Bring your lawn chairs or blankets and sit on the lawn around the pavilion.

CALL FOR FAMILY PICTURES

Many of you have experienced the online worship and have seen the insertion of the landscape imagery during our singing. We would like to use that space as a way to connect through pictures. If you would like, please send a picture to the church email office or Pastor Muse so it can be inserted into the worship service for our online participants to view. As the pictures come in, they will be used as part of our worship experience.

st.paulsalliance@outlook.com
pastormuse@gmail.com

*The Eternal Flame is given to the
glory of God in memory of our
parents Herman and Helen Weick,
Gene and Carolyn Williams,
brother and wife Richard and
Marilyn Weick and sister and
husband Bill and Peg Simon by
Bob and Mary Lou Williams.*



JULY 2021—The Word of God in Worship

July 4, 2021 TIME AFTER PENTECOST —

LECTIONARY 14

INTRODUCTION

Jesus does great deeds of power and gives his disciples authority over demons. Yet none of this power is unilateral; it all must be received by faith. Jesus asks his disciples to go out without money or supplies, so that they will be dependent on how others receive them. When we are sent from the assembly to witness and to heal, we are asked to be vulnerable, to be dependent on the reception of others. The Spirit always operates in the "between": between Jesus and his Abba, between Jesus and us, between you and me, between us and those to whom we are sent.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of the covenant, in our baptism you call us to proclaim the coming of your kingdom. Give us the courage you gave the apostles, that we may faithfully witness to your love and peace in every circumstance of life, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

READINGS AND PSALM Ezekiel 2:1-5, Psalm 123, *Our eyes look to you, O God, until you show us your mercy.* (Ps. 123:2), 2 Corinthians 12:2-10, Mark 6:1-13

July 11, 2021 TIME AFTER PENTECOST —

LECTIONARY 15

INTRODUCTION

When Amos reports his vision of God judging Israel for its mistreatment of the poor, he becomes a threat to the power of the priests and the king. John the Baptist also speaks truth to power, and Herod has him killed. In Herod's fear that Jesus is John returned from the dead, we may hear hope for the oppressed: all the prophets killed through the ages are alive in Jesus. We are called to witness to justice in company with them, and to proclaim God's saving love.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, from you come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments; and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

READINGS AND PSALM Amos 7:7-15, Psalm 85:8-13, *I will listen to what the LORD God is saying.* (Ps. 85:8), Ephesians 1:3-14, Mark 6:14-29

July 18, 2021 TIME AFTER PENTECOST —

LECTIONARY 16

INTRODUCTION

Mark's gospel makes clear how great is the press of the crowd, with its countless needs to be met, on Jesus and his disciples. Yet in today's gospel Jesus advises his disciples to get away and rest, to take care of themselves. Sometimes we think that when others are in great need we shouldn't think of ourselves at all; but Jesus also honors the caregivers' need. We are sent from Christ's table to care for others and for ourselves.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, powerful and compassionate, you shepherd your people, faithfully feeding and protecting us. Heal each of us, and make us a whole people, that we may embody the justice and peace of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

READINGS AND PSALM Jeremiah 23:1-6, Psalm 23, *The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.* (Ps. 23:1), Ephesians 2:11-22, Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

July 25, 2021 TIME AFTER PENTECOST —

LECTIONARY 17

INTRODUCTION

Today is the first of five Sundays with gospel readings from John 6, the first four of which focus on Jesus as bread of life. Today Jesus feeds thousands of people with five loaves and two fish. What we have, what we bring to Jesus' table, seems like it is not nearly enough to meet all the needs we see around us. But it is not the adequacy of our supplies or our skills that finally makes the difference: it is the power of Jesus working in the littlest and least to transform this world into the world God desires, a world where all the hungry are satisfied.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Gracious God, you have placed within the hearts of all your children a longing for your word and a hunger for your truth. Grant that we may know your Son to be the true bread of heaven and share this bread with all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

READINGS AND PSALM 2 Kings 4:42-44, Psalm 145:10-18, *You open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing.* (Ps. 145:16), Ephesians 3:14-21, John 6:1-21

July 2021						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 10:30 am Meditation (online only) 12:00 pm Daily Devotions (online) 9:30 pm Adult Check-in (Zoom)	2 12:00 pm Daily Devotions (online)	3 5:00 pm First Saturday Worship Outside
4 9:00 am The Gospel of Luke (online) 9:30 am Worship (in-person and online)	5 Church Office closed 7:00 pm Grief Support	6 12:00 pm Daily Devotions (online) 7:00 pm Church Council Meeting	7 10:00 am Adult Bible Study (in-person, outside) 12:00 pm Midweek Eucharist (in-person and online)	8 12:00 pm Daily Devotions (online) 9:30 pm Adult Check-in (Zoom)	9 12:00 pm Daily Devotions (online)	10
11 9:00 am The Gospel of Luke (online) 9:30 am Worship (in-person and online)	12	13 12:00 pm Daily Devotions (online)	14 10:00 am Adult Bible Study (in-person, outside) 12:00 pm Midweek Eucharist (in-person and online)	15 12:00 pm Daily Devotions (online) 9:30 pm Adult Check-in (Zoom)	16 12:00 pm Daily Devotions (online)	17
18 9:00 am The Gospel of Luke (online) 9:30 am Worship (in-person and online) Newsletter Items Due	19 7:00 pm Grief Support	20 12:00 pm Daily Devotions (online) 5:00 pm Alliance Community Dinner 7:00 pm Meditation with Pastor (in-person, outside)	21 10:00 am Adult Bible Study (in-person, outside) 12:00 pm Midweek Eucharist (in-person and online)	22 12:00 pm Daily Devotions (online) 9:30 pm Adult Check-in (Zoom)	23 12:00 pm Daily Devotions (online)	24
25 9:00 am The Gospel of Luke (online) 9:30 am Worship (in-person and online)	26	27 12:00 pm Daily Devotions (online)	28	29 12:00 pm Daily Devotions (online) 9:30 pm Adult Check-in (Zoom)	30 12:00 pm Daily Devotions (online)	31

HOSPITAL ADMITTANCE

The Covid-19 pandemic has made hospital visitation difficult. However, we still want to be part of the healing process. The hospitals are no longer informing churches if a member has been admitted. If you or a loved one is in the hospital please inform the church office or the pastor, so that we can be part of the healing.

Anticipated opening at the Hartville Migrant Ministries starting in mid-July 2021

Coordinator of Volunteers: A part-time coordinator for 674 hours per year to identify, recruit and assist volunteers at the center. In conjunction with the Director, utilize human resources to meet the needs of migrant farmworkers and their families. Develop and maintain volunteer schedules while exploring new areas of service. Assist with the operations of the medical clinic, represent the center in public forums and work with the center volunteer board to assure adherence to mission goals. Strong interpersonal speaking skills, Spanish language skills or willingness to learn suggested. If interested please send your resume to Lora Wyss wlwyss@neo.rr.com by July 1, 2021.

Joint Memorial Service for Frank Webb and Shirley Webb.

There will be a joint memorial service to celebrate the life of Frank M. Webb and Shirley Webb on Saturday, July 17th. The service will begin at 11:00 am with visitation beginning at 10:00 am. Both the visitation and service will be at the church.

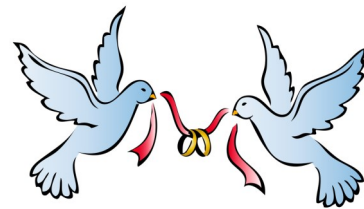
INK CARTRIDGE RECYCLING

We continue to collect used ink cartridges and toner cartridges. This is a great way to help offset the cost of office supplies. Our box is running low so please contribute. There is a donation box in Garnes Hall.



The Alliance of Churches is seeking volunteers to help work in the office.

The office is open from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm Monday through Friday. Duties would include answering the phones, helping connect clients with resources, overseeing bread distribution, as well as other duties as needed in the office. If you are interested please contact Pastor Muse at the church for more information.



We give thanks to God for the Marriage of Aaron Owens and Brittany Shields on Saturday, June 26, 2021. May God bless them with many years of joy and happiness.

ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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of Jesus Christ!*

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The Reverend Timothy H. Muse - Lead Pastor
The Reverend Diana Thompson - Administrative Pastor
Rhonda Ferrall - Secretary
Kathy Sloan - Organist
Gina M. Falconer - Director of Music
Brianne L. Black - Director of Christian Education
Gayle B. Fiegenschuh - Communion Minister and Visitation

WORSHIP IN JULY & AUGUST

Sundays—One Service In-person and online at 9:30 am.

Communion Wafers will be made available on Fridays and Saturdays from 10:30 am to 2:00 pm each week for those who plan to worship from home. The service outline is posted on Pastor Muse's blog site, the Facebook page, and included in the weekly email.

First Saturdays—In-person, Outdoor Worship at 5 pm.

Bring your lawn chairs or blankets and sit on the lawn around the pavilion.

Wednesday Midweek Eucharist—We return to Weekly Eucharist, in-person and online at Noon.

It will be a simple service of word, prayer and Eucharist.