



The Messenger

October 2021

**St. Paul's
Evangelical
Lutheran
Church**

3295 S. Union Ave.
Alliance, Ohio 44601
330-823-2285

FROM PASTOR MUSE

“See I am making all things new!”
Revelation 21

This is such a glorious and wonderful time of year. We are straddling two distinct seasons with each of their best offerings. Summer is waning, but still has its best aspects to give. The sun still shines bright, sets late, and wakes up early. Family and friends can still gather around grills and backyard BBQs to enjoy each others company, celebrating the gift of love and connection. Swimming pools can still be filled with joy, laughter, and games.

Yet fall is starting to bring forth its best bounty as well. Harvests are beginning to spill forth with fruits and flowers. The bounty of the earth is being brought forth for all to receive and enjoy. The summer days flow into fall evenings. A bit of a chill in the air and the scent of ending. Days around grills turn to nights of fires, stories, and memories of another summer closing. The earth begins to change from growth to giving up what has been grown.

The coming of fall also presents the change in the leaves. It was just a few days ago I began to see the colors of the leaves begin to show forth. My burning bushes are starting to turn. God is once again presenting a palate of colors for us to enjoy. The gift of living in this part of the country is that we get a firsthand look at the splendor of God's

handiwork.

The season tells the trees it is time to change the leaves and then let them fall every year. It is a part of the cycle God has put in place, and it does not seem the trees mind this process. They never seem to complain about giving up their leaves. Instead, they let them fall each year, knowing that there will be new leaves in the spring. And each year, the trees wake with the spring sun and present a new set of leaves.

We will watch the end of this process very soon, as the leaves turn and fall. We will marvel in them only to see the trees go dormant, with the trust that they will once again bring forth new life. The trees don't hold on to the dead leaves; they let them go. They release them, knowing that the new life can come forth only when the dead have been released. Thus, the cycle of the tree is for us a living example of the promise of Christ.

Life in this world is not eternal. Everything has an end. Everything will come to a close at some point, but the promise of Christ is that new life will come forth from the gates of death. New life is the ultimate gift of God in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, life eternal in God's presence. For that new life to come forth, the

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Meditation Online

Thursday, October 7,
at 10:30 am (in-person &
online) &
Tuesday, October 19,
at 7:00 pm (in-person &
online).

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

Continued from page 1.

current must come to an end. It is here that the trees give us such an excellent example. They live proudly, stand tall, give what they can, and when it is time, they let go. They release that which makes them so proud, so magnificent, and stand bare only to be reborn. They do this because they trust that the barren branches will not remain. They will grow once again. Let us look to the example of the trees and trust that God will give us new life on the other side of this one. Look to the trees and be reminded that death does not win; life does. God does, always!

Soli Deo Gloria, *Pastor Muse*

HOSPITAL ADMITTANCE

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.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

Join in the work day on Saturday, October 2, 2021, 9 am –noon.

Please sign-up in Garnes Hall, so we can plan projects for the number of volunteers available.

FIRST COMMUNION CLASS

First communion class will take place on Saturday, October 9th at 10:00 AM. All members, 5th grade and above, are welcome to come and prepare for their first communion, which will be offered on Sunday, October 10th.

FROM PASTOR THOMPSON

BUILDING THE KINGDOM

⁹For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building. ¹⁰According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building on it. Each builder must choose with care how to build on it. ¹¹For no one can lay any foundation other than the one that has been laid; that foundation is Jesus Christ. (1 Cor. 3:9–11).

Life as a disciple is to continue to build on the foundation laid through Jesus Christ. As Lutherans, we reject the notion that our good work is the cause for our salvation. Unfortunately, it sometimes leads us to think that we are free from work because we are already saved. Paul reminds us in the passage from First Corinthians that we are called to continue to build the kingdom of God.

Paul is reminding the Corinthian church that it does not matter who shared the gospel with you. But rather, what are you doing with the message of salvation. Are you building on the foundation? What resources are you using? Paul continues this passage, ¹²Now if anyone builds on the

foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw—¹³the work of each builder will become visible, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each has done." (1 Cor. 3:12-13)

How are we building on the foundation of Jesus? What are we doing to grow our faith? What are we doing to grow the kingdom?

Paul is explicit in stating that how we build will be clearly visible. What we build will show its longevity on the last Day.

We, individually and as a congregation, are building the kingdom today. What does it look like?

Join in, come for education, volunteer, and grow so we can grow the kingdom.

Peace, *Pastor Diana Thompson*

ADULT EDUCATION

In-person Wednesday Midday Bible Study

10:00 am

Book of Proverbs.

10:00 am. We will meet each week outside, weather permitting. Bring a lawn chair and enjoy some time together.

In-person Wednesday Evening Bible Study

7:00 pm

Book of Proverbs

Starting Wednesday, October 6th. The study will be on the Book of Proverbs, from the beginning.

Online Wednesday Bible Study

Paul's Letter to the Romans.

The series will be posted each Wednesday at 9:00 am and cross post on the church's social media.

Online 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.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

"Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths." Psalm 25:4.

As the season gets deeper, we hope that your transition to fall has been one of growth and balance. We are now in full swing with our education program at the church, with learning opportunities for all ages. Each Sunday, our dedicated teachers bring forth great learning opportunities, and we invite you to participate.

We have Pre-k thru 2nd grade, 3rd thru 5th grade, 6th thru 8th grade, High School, and Adult opportunities each week. Make it a point to see what is happening in our education

process. We also offer online education options during the week and on Sunday morning. You are encouraged to grow your faith through the process of education.

After many years of faithful service, our Director of Christian Education, Brianne Black, has decided to lay down her position. We are incredibly thankful to God for her gifts and years of service. Please be sure to thank her for her service and all that she has given to the church.

QUILTERS

The quilters are still working, still in our pandemic mode.

We still have tops being made by Betty Lou and Sherrie, and found some of Sandy's. I've had rolls of batting delivered to my house and have tables set up so I can sandwich the tops, batting and backing sheets, which we have gotten lots of donations. They are top stitched and yarn put in, and we have a waiting list of people I meet at church, they take them home, tie and return to church.

Since January I have ordered six rolls of batting and have been getting 30 quilts from each roll. I will try to get at least one more roll in before quilts go out

the second week of October.

Last year I got a lot of complaints why we send these overseas instead of keeping local. Pastor and I talked about this, he made some phone calls and I did some checking. We were told Alliance doesn't really have a "living in the streets" situation, even if we do have some homeless people these quilts are double bed size so even if used for a night or two they are too bulky for those toting all their belongings. Salvation Army doesn't really have a need for this size, nursing homes prefer the thin, easier to wash ones. I did put some in the Salvation Army drop box. Instead for nursing homes,

sometime in November Walmart has fleece blankets and some as low as \$5. When you see those fleece go on sale (those are actually a better buy than buying the fleece) we will give to as many nursing homes as we can. We had 65 blankets. Pastor and I choose AlterCare and when Gayle took them out they said they didn't know what they would do for their Christmas party for the residents.

Last year I sold two beautiful quilts to buy those fleece rolls. One buyer paid for the quilt but put it back in to resell. So we will again give our quilts to LWR. I've checked that they are helping in Haiti.

MUSIC & WORSHIP

Music & Worship Committee will meet on Tuesday, October 5 at 7:00 pm. We will be preparing banners for Reformation. Please bring an iron and/or steamer with you to the meeting. Please see Gina Falconer if you are unable to attend.

SERVICE TIME FOR OCTOBER: ONE SERVICE at 9:30 am.

Chancel Choir has started, and Joybells will begin October 7. Practices are on Thursday evenings. Joybells – 6:15 pm and Chancel Choir – 7:15 pm. Please see Gina Falconer if you have any questions about singing or ringing with one of St. Paul's choirs!

The **Junior and Children's choirs** will begin rehearsing on **Thursday, October 21**. Junior choir is for those in grades 2-8. Children's choir is for those age 3-grade 1. Practices are on Thursdays, with Junior choir at 5:15 pm and Children's choir at 5:30 pm. If you have any questions, please see Gina Falconer.

Please remember to wear **RED** on **Reformation Sunday, October 31st**.

On **November 7th (All Saints Sunday)**, we would like to honor the Saints in our lives. Please feel free to bring a photo of a saint from your life. During the service you will have an opportunity to bring the photo forward to honor them as a saint in your life.

WOMEN'S GROUPS DEBORAH'S

The Deborah's will meet on October 8th at 12:00 pm. All women are welcome to join us for lunch and fellowship.

The Eternal Flame is given to the glory of God in memory of Kaden Cole Garrott and my father Jack Nieto by Deb Garrott.



The WELCA Envelopes are very important source of funds for our work in the church community. We give to several area charities, such as the Salvation Army, Child Development Day Care, Domestic Violence Shelter, and the Alliance Pregnancy Center. When we host special events, that money is donated to a local charity needing help. Please help us with your support.

SEPTEMBER 2021—The Word of God in Worship

October 3, 2021

TIME AFTER PENTECOST — LECTIONARY 27

INTRODUCTION

Today's gospel combines a saying that makes many of us uncomfortable with a story we find comforting. Jesus' saying on divorce is another of his rejections of human legislation in favor of the original intent of God's law. Jesus' rebuke of the disciples who are fending off the children should challenge us as well. What does it mean to receive the kingdom of God as a child does?

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Sovereign God, you have created us to live in loving community with one another. Form us for life that is faithful and steadfast, and teach us to trust like little children, that we may reflect the image of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

READINGS AND PSALM Genesis 2:18-24, Psalm 8

You crown us with glory and honor. (Ps. 8:5), Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12, Mark 10:2-16

October 10, 2021

TIME AFTER PENTECOST — LECTIONARY 28

INTRODUCTION

The rich man who comes to ask Jesus what he should do to inherit eternal life is a good man, sincere in his asking. Mark's gospel is alone in saying that Jesus looked on him and loved him. Out of love, not as judgment, Jesus offers him an open door to life: sell all you own and give it to the poor. Our culture bombards us with the message that we will find life by consuming. Our assemblies counter this message with the invitation to find life by divesting for the sake of the other.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty and ever-living God, increase in us your gift of faith, that, forsaking what lies behind and reaching out to what lies ahead, we may follow the way of your commandments and receive the crown of everlasting joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

READINGS AND PSALM Amos 5:6-7, 10-15, Psalm 90:12-17, So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts to wisdom. (Ps. 90:12), Hebrews 4:12-16

Mark 10:17-31

October 17, 2021 TIME AFTER PENTECOST —
LECTIONARY 29

INTRODUCTION

Today's gospel starts with disciples obsessing over who will be closest to Jesus, leading to Jesus teaching his followers about God's take on importance and power. Here Jesus makes it explicit that the reversal of values in God's community is a direct challenge to the values of the dominant culture, where wielding power over others is what makes you great. When we pray "your kingdom come" we are praying for an end to tyranny and oppression. We pray this gathered around the cross, a sign of great shame transformed to be the sign of great honor and service.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Sovereign God, you turn your greatness into goodness for all the peoples on earth. Shape us into willing servants of your kingdom, and make us desire always and only your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

READINGS AND PSALM Isaiah 53:4-12, Psalm 91:9-16

You have made the LORD your refuge, and the Most High your habitation. (Ps. 91:9), Hebrews 5:1-10, Mark 10:35-45

October 24, 2021

TIME AFTER PENTECOST — LECTIONARY 30

INTRODUCTION

Can we pray the way Bartimaeus prays? People try to hush him up because by addressing Jesus as "Son of David" he is making a politically dangerous claim that Jesus is the rightful king. Could our prayers ever be heard as a threat to unjust powers that be? Bartimaeus won't give up or go away quietly, but repeats his call for help more loudly. Do we ask so boldly? And are our prayers an honest answer to Jesus' question, "What do you want me to do for you?"

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Eternal light, shine in our hearts. Eternal wisdom, scatter the darkness of our ignorance. Eternal compassion, have mercy on us. Turn us to seek your face, and enable us to reflect your goodness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

READINGS AND PSALM Jeremiah 31:7-9, Psalm 126

Those who sowed with tears will reap with songs of joy. (Ps. 126:5), Hebrews 7:23-28, Mark 10:46-52

October 31, 2021 REFORMATION DAY

INTRODUCTION

Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

READINGS AND PSALM Jeremiah 31:31-34, Psalm 46

The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold. (Ps. 46:7), Romans 3:19-28, John 8:31-36

October 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 9:00 am Property Committee Work Day
3 9:00 am The Gospel of Luke (online) 9:30 am Worship (in-person and online) 10:30 am Fellowship 10:45 am Christian Education	4 7:00 pm Grief Support	5 7:00 pm Committee Meetings	6 10:00 am Adult Bible Study 12:00 pm Midweek Eucharist (in-person and online) 7:00 pm Adult Bible Study	7 10:30 am Meditation (in-person and online) 6:15 pm Joybells 7:15 pm Chancel Choir	8 12:00 pm Deborah's	9 10:00 am First Communion Class
10 9:00 am The Gospel of Luke (online) 9:30 am Worship (in-person and online) 10:30 am Fellowship 10:45 am Christian Education	11 6:00 pm Girl Scouts	12 7:00 pm Church Council	13 10:00 am Adult Bible Study 12:00 pm Midweek Eucharist (in-person and online) 7:00 pm Adult Bible Study	14 6:15 pm Joybells 7:15 pm Chancel Choir 7:00 pm Gift & Ministry Support Meeting	15	16
17 9:00 am The Gospel of Luke (online) 9:30 am Worship (in-person and online) 10:30 am Fellowship 10:45 am Christian Education Newsletter Items Due	18 7:00 pm Grief Support	19 7:00 pm Meditation with Pastor (in person and online)	20 10:00 am Adult Bible Study 12:00 pm Midweek Eucharist (in-person and online) 7:00 pm Adult Bible Study	21 5:15 pm Junior Choir 5:30 pm Children's Choir 6:15 pm Joybells 7:15 pm Chancel Choir	22	23
24 9:00 am The Gospel of Luke (online) 9:30 am Worship (in-person and online) 10:30 am Fellowship 10:45 am Christian Education	25 6:00 pm Girl Scouts	26 5:00 pm Alliance Community Dinner	27 10:00 am Adult Bible Study 12:00 pm Midweek Eucharist (in-person and online) 7:00 pm Adult Bible Study	28 5:15 pm Junior Choir 5:30 pm Children's Choir 6:15 pm Joybells 7:15 pm Chancel Choir	29	30
31 Reformation 9:00 am The Gospel of Luke (online) 9:30 am Worship (in-person and online) 10:30 am Fellowship 10:45 am Christian Education						

Happy October 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.

2 - Michelle Smith	10 - Josh Turner	16 - Cecilia Raga	31 - Robert Huffman
2- Beau Siegfried	11 - Tony Castina	17 - Sarah Leasure	
3 - Betsy Goshorn	11 - Mark Himmelein	19 - Andrea Huffman	
4 - Sherri Scott-Schweninger	12 - Dorothy Aiello	21 - Traci Raga	
5 - Pat Nelson	12 - Greg Hobe	23 - Caleb Russell	
5 - Steven Sedei	13 - Benjamin Carman	24 - Margaret Hostettler	
6 - Josh White	13 - Brian Shutler	25 - Richard Essick	
9 - Pamela Leforte	13 - Jason Siegfried	25 - Jill Mehl	
10 - Austin Mehl	14 - Nikki Gorby	25 - Adrienne O'Neill	
10 - Mason Marriner	15- Anthony Scott	29 - Elizabeth Meyers	
10 - Chondra Fassnacht	16 - Cindy McClarren	31 - John Bienz	



GIFT & MINISTRY SUPPORT COMMITTEE

The committee is planning a Celebration of Ministries in January 2022. It will include a financial appeal and gift & skills survey. We will meet again on Thursday, October 14, 2021 at 7 pm.

LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE THE CONGREGATION

Coordinator of weekly fellowship following worship—coordinate the purchase of supplies, and schedule volunteers.

Coordinator of funeral dinners offered after funeral services—coordinate the purchase of supplies, contact the family to determine menu and number of guests, coordinate volunteers.

If either of these opportunities are of interest to you, please contact Pastor Muse or Mark Himmelein, Council President, to learn more.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Thank you all for the wonderful response to our request for school supplies and hygiene items for the community schools. All donations were greatly appreciated.

October Collection

Our project for October is gathering underwear, leggings and sweatpants for the school children. In the past we've called the project "Undie Sundays." Tracy Lewis from the local school system has provided the sizes needed. For girls, underwear 6-16 (most popular 6, 8,10) For boys, underwear sizes 4-20 (most popular sizes 6, 8, 10, 12) Sweatpants and leggings for both girls and boys, sizes needed are 6, 8, 10.

We will be collecting all Sundays in the month of October. As always if you are not able to shop, you can always donate cash and we will do the shopping for you. Donations can be sent to the church office or you can see Greg Brookes or Karen Wolfe. Your generosity is always appreciated.

Community Dinner

We continue to do the monthly community dinners. At this point it continues to be a "grab & go" dinner, which includes a sloppy joe, bag of chips, juice box and cookie. Normally we make 120 dinners to be given out.

ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

3295 S. Union Ave
Alliance, OH 44601

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be the living body
of Jesus Christ!*



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Stay informed and sign up for *The Weekly Messenger* email on our website, Facebook page, or text 4STPAULS to 22828.

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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

**FALL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21ST
AT 10:45 AM**

**WINTER CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING SUNDAY, JANUARY 30TH
AT 10:45 AM**

WORSHIP IN OCTOBER

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.

Wednesday Midweek Eucharist—In-person and online at Noon.

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

SUNDAY MORNING FELLOWSHIP

10:30 am

Sunday Morning Education

10:45 am