



# The Messenger

## July 2020

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

3295 S. Union Ave.  
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### FROM PASTOR MUSE

In this time of separation, the church is blessed to have access to the technology to provide services and devotional time. Without the use of the internet and social media platforms, we would be completely cut off from shared worship. Yet because of those things, we can have some form of community. Even with technology at our disposal and the amount of interaction we have created, there is still a lot missing. Being together as a community of faith is fundamental to our identity, and since we can not gather, we face struggles. As the pastor, I have many opportunities to speak to you both in groups and individuals, which gives me that chance to say the things I want to and need to say. Since we are apart, I want make sure that I say the important things to you through this medium.

**I miss you!**

I genuinely miss seeing all of you each Sunday and at the other ministry opportunities throughout the week. I miss the warmth and interaction, the smiles and support. I have always said that the church made me a Reverend, but you make me a pastor. It is a great struggle for me to be apart from all of you during this time. The decision to keep apart as we move forward is an exceedingly difficult one for me to hold because I do miss seeing you. I miss

hearing how your week is going, how work, school, health issues, and all the other parts of your life. I miss looking into your eyes, praying with you, singing with you, and praising God together. I know that we will be together again, yet I also want you to know that this separation is just as difficult for me.

**I love you!**

I have said this to you before as well. And I attempt to repeat it as often as I can. You are important to me as a community and individuals within the community. You hold a special place in my heart that is struggling because I cannot tell this to you face to face. I am challenged to express that to you in this time, but it essential for you to know that the time apart has not diminished my love for you as brothers and sisters in Christ.

**I respect you!**

I am called as the pastor of this community, but the community is the gathering of the people. I continue to respect your role in the community and the power God has granted the gathered people. I have heard from many of you. There are diverse opinions about the pandemic itself and the course we are taking. I listen to where you are and respect where you are. I do not have to

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**Meditation Online**

Thursday, July 2, at 10:30 am  
&  
Tuesday, July 21, at 7:00 pm.

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

Continued from page 1.

agree with you to respect you. I have my understanding and am called to make decisions based on my knowledge, education, and guidance from God and the church. And I do my best to take all of your words, thoughts, and expressions into account.

### **I pray for you!**

Every day I go to God lifting up this community and the members within it. The pattern of life and all its aspects are still present even during our current struggle. Joy and sorrow, laughter and tears are still

part of our life, and as a pastor, as well as a member of the Body of Christ, I hold you close in the good times and the difficult ones. I long to hold your hand, or lay my hands on your head, to feel your presence as we go before God, but even as we are distant, I pray. I keep going to God in prayer and supplication on your behalf.

In this time apart, please know that I am still here and waiting for the day when we can come back together again. God bless you and hold you close, so that we may come back together in the name of Christ!

Soli Deo Gloria  
*Pastor Muse*

P.S. Thank you to everyone who participated in my 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Ordination Celebration. The card shower and the Drive-by parade were both so unexpected and joyous. I am truly blessed and so appreciative of this community and those who organized such an incredible expression. Thank you so much for being part of my life and ministry.

## **FROM PASTOR THOMPSON**

There is a saying that “Stewardship is everything we do after we say we believe.” What is the “everything” described in this saying? Just things that seem religious, churchy, biblical? No, everything means everything. From the food, we eat to the food we share: the place we chose to live and our willingness to help others find safe shelter.

Stewardship can be a lofty word. The practice of Stewardship is in every decision, large or small we make in a day and over a lifetime.

Most Lutherans hear the word Stewardship and think of the annual appeal a congregation makes for the coming year. When we define Stewardship in this limited way, we can easily dismiss how our words, actions, and decisions affect us and others in the short or long-term.

Let’s take a simulated walk through a day and think about how our decisions affect ourselves and others.

When does your alarm go off in the morning? Do you set an alarm clock?

What are the things you plan to do today? Do you hit the snooze button for just a few more minutes in bed?

How does getting up and moving show stewardship? It could be caring for your body by not procrastinating the getting up activity. It may be the difference of a gentle morning rather than a mad scramble to get to work. It may mean that you have a few extra minutes with family members before you need to head out the door. What if that allows you a short walk or time to read a devotional before getting ready.

What about the food choices we make? What, if anything, do you eat for breakfast? Is it something you know is right for your body and provides a nutritional start to your day? Did you know that if you intentionally start your day with a nutritious meal, you are more likely to continue to make better food choices throughout the day? (1)

How do we plan our travel for the day? Do you take the most efficient route to work? How about when you are out running errands? Do you think about all

the places you need to go and map your way to drive the fewest miles?

We have only begun a day. Think about how one decision can affect other decisions? We haven’t even started to discuss how our words or actions affect the other members of our household.

Stewardship is everything we do because it is about how we use, manage, and care for what God has given to us.

We will talk more about the Stewardship of our words in the next monthly article.

Peace and Blessings,  
*Pastor Diana Thompson*

(1) <https://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/health/healthyliving/breakfast>

**(COVID-19)**

# Social Distancing This or That!



## PREVENTION

### INSTEAD OF THIS...

### DO THAT.....

Only washing your hands on occasion, or just using water.



Wash your hands regularly! Use water and soap and wash for at least 20 seconds.

Sneezing into your hands (ew!).



Sneeze into your arm or a tissue.

Checking social media or cable news 24/7.



Continue to stay informed, but also disconnect on occasion. Try reading a new book or trying meditation. Mental health is important.

Going straight to the doctor or urgent care when you're feeling under the weather.



Always call your doctor or healthcare provider FIRST before going in.

Believing every rumor you see online or using non-reputable sources.



Use reputable sources! Get info from verified accounts from CDC, Ohio Department of Health, Governor Mike DeWine, local health departments, and verified media accounts.



**MIKE DEWINE**  
GOVERNOR OF OHIO

**Ohio**

Department of Health

For more information go to  
**[coronavirus.ohio.gov](https://coronavirus.ohio.gov)**

*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.*





## ADULT EDUCATION AND FELLOWSHIP

### 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](mailto:TheRev.Thompson@gmail.com). She will send you the information you need to join in!

### Wednesday Bible Study

*The Book of Revelation*

Posting at 10 am on Pastor Tim's YouTube channel. A link will also be posted on our social media sites.

### Adult Education

*Worship in the Lutheran Tradition*

Sundays at 9:30 am online

The study will be on Pastor Tim's YouTube channel. A link also will be posted on our social media sites.

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## GIFT & MINISTRY SUPPORT

Thank you for your continued generosity to the congregation and our shared ministry.  
We encourage you to keep giving.

We continue to provide monthly dinner at the Alliance Community Dinner. (Thank you to the Greg Brookes for coordinating this work.)

The quilters are still hard at work making quilts. If you are interested in helping contact Shirley Rill.

## MUSIC & WORSHIP

We are providing the following worship opportunities:

**Sundays at 11 am**—Livestream on Facebook with Holy Communion.

**Wednesdays at 12 pm**—Livestream on Facebook a Service of Word and Prayer.

**Saturdays at 5 pm**—Drive-In Worship with Holy Communion. You can sit on the lawn or in your car.

**Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays at 12 pm**—Pastor Muse and Pastor Diana share a devotional or inspirational message.

We thank Gina Falconer, Director of Music & Worship and Kathy Sloan, Organist for continuing to provide leadership for our worship services. We thank Greg & Cathy Brookes, Diana Cullen, and Gina Falconer for joining the worship leadership team on Saturday evenings.

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

*Encourage one another and build each other up. 1Thessalonians 5:11*

We started our Summer Christian Education for Children and Youth . You can find all the videos on our youth Facebook page. [www.facebook.com/SPLCYouthAlliance](http://www.facebook.com/SPLCYouthAlliance). They consist of two videos a week. Sundays (10 am) we introduce the theme and story for the week and on Wednesdays (9:30 am) we have a challenge. The challenge materials are available for pick up on Fridays from 10:30 am—2 pm and Saturdays from 10:30 am—6 pm. Contact me if you have any questions.

Weekly Adult Bible Study will be available on Wednesday at 10 am on YouTube, with links posted on Social Media. You can comment or ask question and Pastor Muse will reply. Please watch the social media posts and website for information.

Pastor Muse is also doing a video series that will post on Sunday mornings. *Worship in the Lutheran Tradition* will post at 19:30 am on Sundays.

With God's Love, *Brianne Black*

### 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	12 – Chelsea Evanich	23 – Cindy Miller
1 – Larry Hill	13 – Madge Peters	23 – Ruby Garroway
2 – Sara Picone	13 – Howard Pifer	24 – Allison Castina
2 – Jani Middleton	15 – Danielle Saunier	25 – Tricia George
2 - Whitney Jo Wallace	16 – Jeff Hunter	26 – Ron Castina
3 – Matthew Rill	16 – Paige Burnworth	26 – Gayle Fiegenschuh
4 – Allison Bailey	17 – Ryan Davidson	28 – Dale Boyce
4 – Samuel Hays	18 – Sandi Fiegenschuh	28 – Barbara Hunt
5 – Jacob Kridler	19 – Rodney Campbell	30 – Lorraine Franks
6 – Jacob Craig	20 – Kayleigh Wonner	30 – Pearl Schuller
8 – Kyle Hoopes	22 – Terry Dennis	
10 – Donna Cubick	22 – Susan Henschen	
10 - Joan Huffman	23 – Guy Kirk III	



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>July 2020</b>	1	2	1 9:30 am Youth/Children Education Online 10:00 am Adult Bible Study Online 12:00 pm Midweek Worship Online	2 10:30 am Meditation with Pastor 12:00 pm Daily Devotions Online 9:30 pm Adult Check-in	3 12:00 pm Daily Devotions Online	4 5:00 pm Drive-In Worship
5 9:30 am Adult Education Online 10:00 am Youth/Children Education Online 11:00 am Worship Online	6	7 12:00 pm Daily Devotions Online	8 9:30 am Youth/Children Education Online 10:00 am Adult Bible Study Online 12:00 pm Midweek Worship Online	9 12:00 pm Daily Devotions Online 9:30 pm Adult Check-in	10 12:00 pm Daily Devotions Online	11 5:00 pm Drive-in Worship
12 9:30 am Adult Education Online 10:00 am Youth/Children Education Online 11:00 am Worship Online	13	14 12:00 pm Daily Devotions Online	15 9:30 am Youth/Children Education Online 10:00 am Adult Bible Study Online 12:00 pm Midweek Worship Online	16 12:00 pm Daily Devotions Online 9:30 pm Adult Check-in	17 12:00 pm Daily Devotions Online	18 5:00 pm Drive-in Worship
19 9:30 am Adult Education Online 10:00 am Youth/Children Education Online 11:00 am Worship Online <b>Newsletter Items Due</b>	20	21 12:00 pm Daily Devotions Online 7:00 pm Meditation with Pastor	22 9:30 am Youth/Children Education Online 10:00 am Adult Bible Study Online 12:00 pm Midweek Worship Online	23 12:00 pm Daily Devotions Online 9:30 pm Adult Check-in	24 12:00 pm Daily Devotions Online	25 5:00 pm Drive-in Worship
26 9:30 am Adult Education Online 10:00 am Youth/Children Education Online 11:00 am Worship Online	27	9 12:00 pm Daily Devotions Online 4:30 pm Alliance Community Meal	29 9:30 am Youth/Children Education Online 10:00 am Adult Bible Study Online 12:00 pm Midweek Worship Online	30 12:00 pm Daily Devotions Online 9:30 pm Adult Check-in	31 12:00 pm Daily Devotions Online	

## JULY 2020—The Word of God in Worship

### July 5, 2020 TIME AFTER PENTECOST—

**LECTIONARY 14 INTRODUCTION** The mystery of God's ways is sometimes hidden from the wise and intelligent. Jesus associates with those often excluded from the religious community. Like Paul, we struggle with our own selfish desires and seek God's mercy and forgiveness. We gather to be refreshed by Christ's invitation: "Come to me, all you that are weary." Gathered around word, water, and meal, we find rest for our souls.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY** You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**READINGS AND PSALM** Zechariah 9:9-12 Psalm 145:8-14 The LORD is gracious and full of compassion. (Ps. 145:8) Romans 7:15-25a Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

### July 12, 2020 TIME AFTER PENTECOST—

**LECTIONARY 15 INTRODUCTION** God's word is like the rain that waters the earth and brings forth vegetation. It is also like the sower who scatters seed indiscriminately. Our lives are like seeds sown in the earth. Even from what appears to be little, dormant, or dead, God promises a harvest. At the Lord's table we are fed with the bread of life, that we may bear fruit in the world.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY** Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**READINGS AND PSALM** Isaiah 55:10-13 Psalm 65: [1-8] 9-13 Your paths overflow with plenty. (Ps. 65:11) Romans 8:1-11 Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

### July 19, 2020 TIME AFTER PENTECOST—

**LECTIONARY 16 INTRODUCTION** It is an age-old question: why is there evil in the world? In the parable of the wheat and the weeds Jesus suggests that both grow together until the harvest. With Paul, we long for the day when all creation will be set free from bondage and suffering. Having both weeds and wheat within us, we humbly place our hope in the promises of God, and from the Lord's table we go forth to bear the fruit of justice and mercy.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY** Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**READINGS AND PSALM** Isaiah 44:6-8 Wisdom 12:13, 16-19 (Alternate) Psalm 86:11-17 Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth. (Ps. 86:11) Romans 8:12-25 Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43 **FIRST READING:** Isaiah

### July 26, 2020 TIME AFTER PENTECOST—

**LECTIONARY 17 INTRODUCTION** As Solomon prays for wisdom, we seek to more deeply know the treasures of faith. In today's gospel Jesus offers everyday images that reveal to us the reign of God: a tree that becomes a sheltering home, yeast that penetrates and expands, a treasured pearl, a net that gains a great catch. Even as we seek the riches of God's reign, the great surprise is that God's grace finds us first!

**PRAYER OF THE DAY** Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**READINGS AND PSALM** 1 Kings 3:5-12 Psalm 119:129-136 When your word is opened, it gives light and understanding. (Ps. 119:130) Romans 8:26-39 Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

**ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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*Our purpose is to  
be the living body  
of Jesus Christ!*



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[www.instagram.com/St.PaulsAlliance](https://www.instagram.com/St.PaulsAlliance)

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

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

**WORSHIP IN JULY AND THE FUTURE**

**Virtual worship at 11:00 am every Sunday**  
**Drive-in worship at 5:00 pm every Saturdays**

Communion Wafers will be made available each week for those who wish to use them.

Our future worship schedule will be guided by the stay at home order and the expectations of social distancing. We invite you to continue participating in our worship services.

The Church Office will continue to be closed.

Pastor Tim or Pastor Diana are at the building most days so please call and leave a message, call their cell phones or email.