



The Pilot

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran

**"JESUS, SAVIOR, PILOT ME
OVER LIFE'S TEMPESTUOUS SEA ...
CHART AND COMPASS COME FROM THEE:
JESUS, SAVIOR, PILOT ME."**

Volume 1, No. 9

February 2016

Church Council

President
Rod Christ

Secretary
Al Ledebur

Treasurer
Kent Wright

Financial Secretary
Stan Blair

Board of Elders
Rod Christ
Bob Grafe
Phil Wiechman

Board of Trustees
Justin Amdahl
Tom Bargsten
Jason Poole

**Committee on
Education
Representative**
Rod Christ

**Committee on
Evangelism
Representative**
Rod Christ

**Committee on
Stewardship
Representative**
Phil Wiechman

Long-range Planning
(Part of Stewardship)

**Food Bank
Representative**
Kent Wright

Pastor
Dennis K. Strong

Office Manager
Ms. Danyelle Wright



From the Pastor:

"As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease." Genesis 8:22 (NIV)

The Flood had ravaged the earth with rain for forty days and forty nights. Water stayed upon the earth for a total of 1 year and 10 days. No doubt, Noah and his family was more than ready to get out of the Ark and put their feet on dry ground! As the animals disembarked and hopped, skipped and jumped around in their new found freedom, Noah set out to give thanks to God for caring for them during the Flood. He built an altar and worshiped God. In response to Noah's worship, the Lord spoke the words above. A new beginning for the earth. "A new day was dawning." It is not unlike the changes from winter to spring. They call it cabin fever in the Midwest when being cooped up for an extended time in the cold and dismal weather of winter leads people to get restless and longing to get out in the warm fresh air of spring. As I

*(Continued on page 2) **Spring, Lent, eternal life***

Lenten Services/Soup Supper

Lent continues. We are following the series: "The Last Names of Jesus" taken from the last chapters of the book of Matthew. Pastor Frey from Montrose has put this series together and he and Pastor Strong will exchange pulpits 3 times during the Lenten season. Plan on attending the remaining worship services that will start at 7 PM. You will be enlightened by the Holy Spirit as we once again follow Jesus to the cross where he suffered on our behalf. We continue with the soup suppers beginning at 6:00 PM. So far the soup has been delicious! Not unexpected. If you would like to supply some soup or crackers or other meal items, you may sign up on the sheet that is on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall.

Holy Week/Easter

It won't be long and we will be in Holy Week where we more intensely look at all that happened in the closing hours of Jesus' suffering and death. On Maundy Thursday

our worship service will be at 7:00 PM with the celebration of Holy Communion. On Friday we will celebrate our Good Friday service at 7:00 PM. Then on Easter Sunday we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior. Once again we will have a sunrise service at Devil's Kitchen on the National Monument. It will begin about 6:30 AM. The sun should start peeking over the mountains around that time. It was beautiful last year! Bring warm clothes as the early morning temperatures are still quite low. You may want to bring a lawn chair along (or you can sit on the picnic table benches... or just stand). Flashlights might be useful as well as the start of the service may still be in the darkness.

In Case You Have Forgotten . . .

Ladies Fellowship collects *Labels for Education* UPC codes, product labels, and designated codes on product packaging.

Labels, etc. (Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1) *Spring, Lent, eternal life*

look out over the lawn, I see brown grass and small piles of snow. Pretty soon buds will appear on the plants and trees and the snow will give way to green grass. I can't wait to get out and get on the bicycle again. I look forward to the warming sun heating up my body as I walk around. Spring is on the way just like God said to Noah after the flood.

There is another type of spring or "change in weather" that we experience as well. As we continue through the season of Lent, consider the burden of sin that has been lifted as we see the suffering Savior taking our place on the cross. It is refreshing to note that we have been released from that heavy burden and can leap for joy knowing that all of our sins have been forgiven. The joy came at the expense of Jesus' life as Martin Luther points out in the meaning of the Second Article: "not with gold or silver but with his holy precious blood and his innocent suffering and death." Our sins melt away as the sunshine brings us warmth and the promise of a beautiful spring of life everlasting. I can't wait to see what God has prepared for us in heaven.

In the meantime, let us continue to worship and give honor to our God who has made our joy and happiness possible.

Building Addition update

The drawings are done! We are reaching out to various contractors and hope to have bids by the end of the month. God is blessing our efforts as the planning process continues to go well. We pray that the bids will fit our budget and that we will be able to get started soon with our addition.

(Continued from page 1) *Labels, etc.*

The *Labels for Education* program is a school fund raising program designed with busy families in mind as an alternative to traditional fund raising. By saving and redeeming product UPCs and beverage/sauce caps from participating products schools can earn FREE educational merchandise, such as computers, software, sports equipment, musical instruments,

Pray for our mission churches

Please Pray for *Missionary Luke and Jennifer Wolfgramm, and the mission in Novosibirsk, Russia*

"When all their labor seems in vain, revive their sinking hopes again..."

We missionaries in Russia love this hymn. Our work in Russia tends to be slow—one soul at a time. But our loving God revives our hopes and even lets us see some fruits of our labor.

"Pastor, before you told us about our Savior, we were always fighting, always angry with each other. But now that we know Jesus, we have peace, we have joy."

"Pastor, studying the Bible has completely changed my life!"

"Pastor, thank the believers in the States for sending missionaries to teach us about Jesus! Thank them for sharing God's gift of eternal life with us!"

"And when success crowns what they do, oh, keep them humble, Lord and true..."

By God's grace, the church in Russia is growing and becoming more independent. Two national pastors serve alongside three missionaries, reaching those who don't know their Savior through Bible classes and outreach programs. Our members are also growing in their faith and eager to share the Savior with others.

"Until before your judgement seat they lay their trophies at your feet." (CW 542 v. 3) Come Lord Jesus! Gather your believers from East and West for eternal life in heaven!

Remember to pray for... *Russian Lutherans to be bold to share the Good News with their friends and relatives and revival of our strength and joy wherever we serve Jesus, our Lord.*

library books and even a minivan! Members of St. Paul bring the *labels* to church (there is a special container in the kitchen) and Ladies Fellowship sends them on to Calvary Academy, a WELS residential school for severely troubled teens located in Mulberry, Florida. The school redeems the points for FREE educational merchandise. **A packet of all participating products is available in the**

Labels, etc. (Continued on page 3)

The Pilot is a monthly newsletter of St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church. Articles are to be submitted to the editor by the 10th of each month. Pastor Strong serves as editor. The Pilot serves to inform St. Paul members of the events that are taking place in our congregation. Keeping the communication lines open is very important. Your comments are welcomed. St. Paul Web Page location is www.stpaulgj.org. You may e-mail at pastorstrong@stpaulgj.org or church@stpaulgj.org

(Continued from page 2) **Labels, etc.**

fellowship hall. (The packet lists every type of eligible labels.) This is a wonderful way of helping Calvary Academy at no cost to ourselves. If you have already been saving labels, we thank you and ask that you continue to do so. If you have not yet participated, please consider joining us in this worthwhile endeavor. **PICK UP YOUR LABELS FOR EDUCATION INFORMATIONAL PACKET TODAY.**



We welcome into our congregation the Randy Bizer family. May we be a blessing to them and they to us.

Membership Pictorial Directories

You can pick up a copy of the pictorial directory that was started last fall. Copies are available in the church sanctuary.

From Maureen's Your Smile: *A pastor was negotiating with a contractor for repairs to his roof. "Go easy on me," the minister pleaded. "I'm just a poor preacher." "I know," the contractor replied, "I heard you speak last Sunday!"*



Luke 18:16 (NIV) ¹⁶ But Jesus called the children to him and said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.



Kidz Korner

St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church
632 26 1/2 Road
Grand Junction CO 81506-1928
970-243-3626/ www.stpauljg.org

We continue this bi-weekly program for kids (18 months to 5 years old) and their accompanying adult. Storytelling, projects, activities, music and snacks are part of the hour.

It is held on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month from 9 AM to 10 AM. No preregistration needed. No cost. Free to participate. If you know of someone who has a child that age and they are looking for interactions with other children and adults, invite them.

ST. PAUL IS A PART OF THE
WISCONSIN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD.
www.wels.net



Address Service Requested

632 26 1/2 Road
Grand Junction CO 81506-1932



Located on the corner of
26 1/2 Road and Horizon Drive

Church Office: 970-243-3626
Pastor's Cell: 612-709-4772
Website: www.stpaulgj.org
Email: church@stpaulgj.org

Worship Services:
Sunday mornings 9:00 AM
Fellowship: 10:00 AM
Sunday School: 10:15 AM
Bible Study: 10:30 AM

- ✓ [Holy Week/Easter schedule, page 1](#)
- ✓ [Membership Pictorial Directory, page 3](#)
- ✓ [Did you forget?, page 4](#)



Click on the QR code with
your smartphone/tablet for
our website access

Want this in digital format rather than having it printed or mailed to you?
Drop a note off to the pastor and you will be notified each month when the
newsletter is ready and you can read it online.