



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. 11

April 2016

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From the Pastor:

1 Peter 5:6-7 (NIV) *6 Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. 7 Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.*

Take the time to "stop and smell the roses." We live in a society where everything is "now." We want it now... fast food, instant access to information, immediate response to our text messages and emails, and hurry up to get to where you are going.

Sometimes it is good to just relax and sit back and contemplate what God has done and how he has painted a beautiful landscape for you to observe.

High anxiety, high pressure, stress attacks, melt-downs and the like can cause sickness and ulcers and be very unhealthy. We all feel pressure at work, at school, at home, even on vacations. To think that vacations are for relaxing. But when rigid schedules are set up and timely arrivals and departures are mandated, it doesn't feel "vacationy." How many times have you gotten home from vacation and felt like you needed a vacation just to recuperate?

(Continued on page 2) Stress reduction

Spring time

As you get out into your yards and prepare your gardens, remember our church grounds. We are planning on doing work around the church grounds on Saturday, April 30 starting at 9:00 AM. Raking, trimming, sprucing up the place will all take place.

Bible Study

Two testimonials:

Greetings to our St. Paul friends. We, Bob and I, wanted to tell about our experience attending Bible study. Until this year, we never attended. We had all kinds of excuses: "have to get home to Mom, have to get home to the animals, we get what we need from the sermon, etc." But, since attending Bible study, we are constantly amazed at how our understanding of the Bible is expanding, and at the same time realizing how little understanding we truly

have. We would just like to encourage others to give it a try. ~ Miriam Grafe.

If someone would have told me that I'd attend Bible study regularly 5 years ago, I would have smiled and said something like, "I'm busy, etc. now, but I look forward to going." As the gospel song says, "Now that I know that I needed you so, help me Jesus. My soul's in your hands." That, in short, is exactly how I feel. A sinner, finally finding the grace of God. ~ Bob Grafe.

Our Bible study hour is on Sunday mornings at 10:30 and on Mondays at either 6:00 or 7:00 PM (Depending on other meetings scheduled... check online calendar or bulletin or call.)

Eye glasses

Do you have old pairs of eye glasses that are just lying around? You don't know what to do with them? The Lion's Club

Eye glasses (Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1) **Stress reduction**

People come home from a stressful work week only to stress themselves out with getting their kids to their sports events that may be hours away from home or they need to get work done on their home or vacation home when they thought they could relax for the weekend. Some even think that they don't have time for church and worship because they have so many other things that "have to get done."

God would differ with that kind of attitude. When you can spend a relaxing hour with the Lord in prayer and praise, it can only help your situation. The devil thrives on stress and distractions. Anything that keeps you away from God fits his plan. Why not reduce stress in your life? Join us in worship regularly and let God take care of the things that cause you anxiety.

WELS Marriage Retreat

A marriage retreat will be held on Friday, November 4 and Saturday, November 5 at The Hotel Denver in Glenwood Springs. Pastor Matt Frey of Living Word Lutheran Church of Montrose will be facilitating the event. The cost is \$109-\$129 (depending on type of room) per couple and covers lodging, presentations and study materials. Brochures are available at church.

From the brochure: "Take a night out of your schedule this fall and join us for a marriage retreat that will be extremely beneficial for both of you.

Whether you have a rocky marriage, a flawless marriage, or something in between, a study of God's Word and applying its truths will undoubtedly strengthen your relationship and tighten the two as one."

This event is one that will not disappoint you and your spouse. Old or young, married for a few years or

many, there is always things that you can do to enhance your marriage.

You will need to contact Pastor Frey to reserve a spot.

Pray for our mission churches and missionaries

Remember to Pray for...

Malawi may be a country most Americans have never heard of, but within its borders lives something every WELS member should know about. Malawi is home to the largest synod in the world which had its beginning as a WELS mission, the Lutheran Church of Central Africa-Malawi Synod (LCCA-M). Five vicars graduated from the seminary in 2014. Between them, they serve 22 congregations. But even when these vicars are ordained a pastors, we will have over 60 vacancies in the LCCA-M. We are praying that the 10 men in the current seminary class will all graduate in another two years for full time ministry. How marvelous it is to see the house of God being built up! With trained pastors, it will be built squarely on the foundation of God's testimony. Jesus Christ will be the cornerstone to whom all look for forgiveness and salvation. But we need more workers. And we need congregations who are willing to commit to pay their pastor as they ought. Peter Martin, former missionary to Malawi.

Vacation Bible School

As we start planning for the summer, we need to set the dates for Vacation Bible School. The possible week that could work is Monday, June 13 - Thursday, June 16 or Monday, June 20 - Thursday, June 23. If you would be interested in helping with VBS either of those two weeks, please contact Pastor Strong as soon as possible so that we can start the process.

(Continued from page 1) **Eye glasses**

International collects old eye glasses and repairs and gives to the needy. If you have a pair or more, you may drop them off at church. In the Fellowship Hall there is a container where you can leave them. If you can't see with them, surely someone else can.

Member survey still open

The Stewardship Committee is still working on putting together a long range plan for our church. The survey that was mentioned in the last newsletter is still open until May 1st. Once again, it can be done by paper or on the internet. Paper copies are available at church. If you want to do it on the internet, email to church@stpaulgj.org for a link. Please take the time to share your thoughts with us.

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

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Pastor's Cell: 612-709-4772
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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

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