



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. 12

May 2016

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From the Pastor:

Exodus 23:12 (NIV) *""Six days do your work, but on the seventh day do not work, so that your ox and your donkey may rest and the slave born in your household, and the alien as well, may be refreshed."*

Summer is the time for many to be refreshed. Students relax after 9 months of homework. Families take vacations to relax and connect with one another. Vacations take us away from the regular day to day activities that can leave us exhausted. God realized the importance of relaxation and being refreshed about 3,000 years ago when he issued the 10 Commandments to the Children of Israel. He gave them the Third Commandment with the words of our text. You work six days. The seventh is to be a day of rest and refreshing. But what do you do on that day? Just sit around and do nothing? Remember that God gave you these words in connection with the Third Commandment. This commandment deals with hearing the Word of God. Luther stated, "We should fear and love God that we do not despise preaching and his Word but regard *Summer vacation* (Continued on page 3)

Church cleaning/Lawn Mowing

We would like members of St. Paul to have the opportunity to get involved in the care of our campus and facilities. We would like you to help with either church cleaning or lawn mowing... or both.

There is a sign up calendar on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall. A sheet posted in the kitchen tells what needs to be done for cleaning inside. If you would like information about how to run the lawn mower and take part in lawn mowing, contact Tom Bargsten. He can give you instructions. Neither task is difficult. Just need to take the time to serve the Lord with your talents.

Bible Study

We will continue our Sunday morning Bible studies into the summer. Presently we are going through a series on Church Fellowship. Why are we not associated with

all the other churches in town? What makes the WELS different from the ELCA or LCMS? Why don't we join these other churches for ecumenical services? These are questions that we discuss and search the Bible for God's will for our fellowship practices. Sunday mornings around 10:30 AM.

Eye glasses

We continue to collect old eye glasses. Bring them to church. The Lion's Club International collects old eye glasses and repairs and gives to the needy.

Building addition update

We have re-submitted the drawings to the contractors for their bids. We are asking that they get the bids in by May 31st. Then we can go over the bids and determine who

Building addition (Continued on page 3)

Remembering Taps

Remember the days of old; consider the generations long past. Ask your father and he will tell you, your elders, and they will explain to you (Deuteronomy 32:7).

The tapping stopped on Christmas Eve. The year was 1941. The place was Pearl Harbor. By then the fires had burned out. The memories, however, would burn for lifetimes. The sight of the dead on December 7th, the moans of the wounded, and the smell of the burning ships would be seared into the minds of those who were there and survived. It was indeed a “day of infamy.” But it did not end when the sun slipped under the edge of the Pacific on that day. Sailors were trapped inside of the capsized vessels. They tapped on the hull of the ship to let would-be rescuers know that they were still alive—and waiting. Heroic efforts ensued. With blowtorches and jacks and sweat, swarms of sailors attacked the walls of the steel prisons. Many were freed. Many were saved. But not all. It was heart-wrenching to hear the tapping come from places that the rescuers could not reach. It was gut-wrenching to listen to the taps echoing out day after day, becoming softer and softer—until they finally stopped. Those sailors would always remember the shock of the sound of bombs exploding. And they would never forget the anguish of the sound of shipmates pitifully tapping. They would spend the rest of their life remembering. It is well for us to remember, too.

“Remember the days of old; consider the generations long past...” This is not just wise advice; it is the command of the Lord God. The past teaches lessons about ourselves and our God. We learn about human pride and viciousness—and frailty. We learn about divine justice and power. We learn the meaning of grace, of amazing undeserved love. We learn about the need for help from heaven; the need for a divine Rescuer. Angels heard that tapping from below the waters. Did they weep over the USS Arizona and the Nevada as Jesus once wept over Jerusalem? It is not for us to say. Angelic spirits were not deployed to free those sailors from the hold of steel as they once were sent to free a Paul and Barnabas from jail bars. But that does not mean they were not used. When the souls of God’s own broke free from earth’s bounds, angels were sent to escort them to heaven. The day after the tapping stopped a message

from heaven rang out in Pearl Harbor and from Christian churches everywhere. It was a repeat of the angelic announcement: *Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy!* Grieving hearts heard those words again and remembered the good tidings: *For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord!* It was a message they desperately needed. It was a message of eternal hope. We need to remember the sorrow that is part of Memorial Day. And then we need to remember Christmas—the answer to all sorrow. The echo of the repeated taps on steel that came from below water still reaches America’s shores.

On this Memorial Day a somber sound will float over many a place where our warriors rest. To the 1941 tapping on steel we somberly reply with the sound of Taps—this time played with a trumpet. Those who know the closing words to the melody may whisper them softly:

*Thanks and praise, For our days,
'Neath the sun, 'Neath the stars,
'Neath the sky,
As we go, This we know,
God is nigh.*

We pray:

Almighty Father, strong to save, with heads bowed in respect and honor, we remember those who died in defense of America, and your strong arm working through them. Many of them had prayed, “God bless America!” You heard their words and granted your blessing. You were there when the telegram of death came to doorsteps. You walked with the loved ones who stared at a flag-draped casket, or wept over the note that said the grave was in a far-off land. You heard the sounding of taps over the fresh graves, and you greeted your faithful ones to that land where there will be no tapping in despair, and no sound of taps floating through the air. Bring us to that place where it is forever Christmas. Amen.

Written by Pastor Paul Ziemer, WELS National Civilian Chaplain and Liaison to the Military, Cape Coral, Florida.

Provided by WELS Ministry to the Military
For an audio file of this, and other devotions, log on to www.welsmilitary.net.

(Continued from page 1) **Summer vacation**

it as holy and gladly hear and learn it.”

Going to church is to be refreshing for your soul. You know we need it. The devil and world fight against your faith day in and day out. Your time of worship rejuvenates your soul and prepares you to continue the battle refreshed.

But when you refuse to worship, it is like refusing water when running a marathon. You become spiritually dehydrated and it brings upon your souls all kinds of spiritual sicknesses. Jesus provides healing. But we have to be willing to let him.

“Traditionally” the summer time means less people in church. Why? Many just think that this is time to take a vacation from church. “I’ll sleep in instead of going to church.” “I need a break from church.”

God wants you in church regularly. Come and get refreshed. The devil doesn’t take a summer vacation. Actually, he probably does since he has done his dirty work to keep you from coming to church.

Are you going to let the devil win?

Pray for our mission churches and missionaries

Remember to Pray for... La iglesia luterana Pan de Vida! Bread of Life Lutheran Church is a mission congregation in Santa Ana, California. We began as a Spanish-speaking mission in 2003. In 2006, WELS Church Extension Fund purchased property and a building for our use. We added English to our ministry program about a year after constructing a

permanent facility in June 2007. Our main outreach strategies are English as a Second Language classes for the Spanish-speakers and a preschool for English-speakers. As I write, our official communicant membership is only in the upper 50’s, but we have a good number of consistent visitors as well. Although our monetary offerings fall below expectations, God is richly blessing this corner of his kingdom. God’s people are being served. And they are serving—many who have very little find ways to demonstrate their thankfulness for what their Savior has done for them. Due to the evangelistic attitude of our members, we have contact with and involvement in the lives of a much larger number of people than are at worship. Many watch our internet streamed services and materials are sent to extended family in many locations. If you would like to see pictures of our congregation and even Spanish and English services from Pan de Vida, check out our Web site at www.pandevidadbreadoflife.com. Keep on praying for us and for God’s kingdom to be extended among us. Pastor Michael. L. Foley

One in Christ offering

Our WELS has been promoting the retirement of our Synod’s debt. There has been much progress and the more that is given, the less interest that we will have to pay and the more dollars that can be used for mission and ministry. Consider giving a donation to

One in Christ (Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 1) **Building addition**

we wish to be our contractor. With the soils testing we found that we do not need deep pilings for the foundations so that should lower the price quite a bit from the last set of bids.

We have \$169,164 in our Building Fund that is available for the project. We pray that the Lord helps us on to the next phase of the building project with ground breaking and getting the addition under way.

Church clean up

Thanks to all who were able to help beautify our campus and facilities at the end of April. We want to have a good impression on our community as we take pride at our place of worship.

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 3) **One in Christ**

help. You can pick up a brochure at church or you can go online to www.wels.net/oneinchrist. There you can follow the link and donate online.

What a blessing God has given us to support our WELS as we continue to reach out with the Gospel of Jesus to the world through our missions, preparatory schools, college and Seminary.

From our Planned Giving Counselor

What a pleasure it is for me to work with the members of St Paul Lutheran Church! Recently I was blessed to moderate a session on wills, estate planning and gifting to your church and WELS ministries. You have very dedicated members that clearly understand the mission of your church and how planned giving can help. I pray you agree it was helpful and meaningful. Your contact requests indicate I have more work to do for you, and I thank you for your interest in our mission. I will be contacting those I could not see immediately and then remain in touch from time to

time. In the meantime, whether you attended our gathering or not, feel free to contact me at carl.leibner@wels.net or call me at 352-638-7221 . Thank you for making me feel a part of the process as your church continues to reach out to more and more souls that need to hear the truths of what you teach. I simply appreciate the opportunity to be of service to you. Thank you, in service to Him. Carl Leibner, Christian Giving Counselor, WELS Ministry of Christian Giving.

Used Meditations booklets

Don't throw away your expired Meditations. Please place them in the box located above the coat rack in the entry way at church. These issues are used by our pastors in the WELS prison ministry. Thank you.

Vacation Bible School

We will be holding our VBS on Monday, June 13 through Thursday, June 16 from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM. This is for children preschool through sixth grade. We would like all of our member children to attend. This can be an encouragement to visiting families when they see our own children involved and present in church activities.

It is an opportunity for all children to learn more about how they can be involved in sharing God's Word with their friends and neighbors and relatives and acquaintances.

Have your children invite relatives and neighbors to attend as well. Who knows who may learn about Jesus for the first time and have a life long effect.

You can still volunteer to help. Speak to Pastor Strong.



**“Come, follow me,
and I will make you fishers of men.”**

Matthew 4:19

Scrip Program

What is Scrip? Scrip is a program that provides a passive way of fund raising for our church. You are able to purchase gift cards and gas cards from many different vendors. You purchase from the church at face value and the church gets a percentage back in cash rebates.

Attached to this newsletter is a list of gift cards that are for local vendors.

Remember when you buy \$10, \$25, \$50 cards, that is what you can use to spend. The sheet shows what percentage is rebated back to church. You get the card to use or gift to someone else and the church gets a small rebate... it adds up. Over the years the proceeds have been used to fund things for the preschool. Last summer it was voted to put these funds into the Building Fund for the new addition. In 2015, \$550 was rebated. In 2016 so far we are in line to match that dollar amount. It is a win-win for you and for our church.

There are different ways to purchase these cards. You can call Marie Neuberger and she has a stock of cards immediately available. If the cards you want are not in stock, she can order them. When we do order, there is a shipping fee involved which the church absorbs out of the proceedings.

A second way that we are exploring is to purchase online. To do so, do the following:

1. Go to www.shopwithscrip.com
2. Click on the "Register" tab at top of page.
3. Click on the "Join a Scrip Program" in the middle of the page.
4. **Put this enrollment code in: BLDD6BD433L35**
5. The follow directions from there.

There are many tasks you can do online.

- You can set reminders when you want to reorder cards.
- Using "Prestopay" you can pay for the cards online bypassing writing a check to the Scrip program. PrestoPay™ lets you pay for your ShopWithScrip® orders online—no more dropping off checks! PrestoPay securely links a bank account to your ShopWithScrip account so you can choose electronic debit when you checkout online. The rebate is automatically credited to your organization, and you don't have to worry about cash or checks. You can order ScripNow® electronic gift cards (eCards) on your ShopWithScrip® account. Just print out ScripNow on your home printer and use it in stores just like a physical gift card, or you can use it for online shopping by entering the card number and PIN at the checkout page. PrestoPay makes ordering so

convenient! For a small convenience fee of only \$0.15 per order, you can order and pay for scrip on your ShopWithScrip account at any time, day or night. But what you'll really love about using PrestoPay is your Reloads process faster, and you'll receive your ScripNow® eCards and ReloadNow® funds in a matter of minutes! On top of that, PrestoPay is completely secure.

You create a secret PIN number to use at checkout, so you know your account is protected.

- If you order the same thing each time, you can set up "express order" and one click and your order is ready to go.

Other perks:

- Skip shipping, get scrip faster, and do some good for the planet by reloading gift cards. Reloading is a time-saving option that allows you to add funds to gift cards you've already purchased through ShopWithScrip. You don't need to wait for new gift cards to ship, and you can use Reload to order exactly as much as you need!
When your Reload orders are placed and paid for before 3:30 p.m. EST, Monday through Friday, the funds will be added to your card overnight! Plus, for a growing number of retailers, you can add funds to your cards even faster with ReloadNow™. When you pay for your order with PrestoPay™, funds will be added to your card in minutes, 24 hours a day/7 days a week. If you pay by check, the funds will be on your card minutes after the order is released by your coordinator. There are just over 100 different cards that can be reloaded.
- You can print off the list of vendors from the website so you have it for yourself. This will have the full list and not just the local vendors.
- And you can access from your smartphone.

For more information, contact Marie Neuberger or Pastor Strong

Scrip Cards Participants

STORE NAME	CARD TYPE	REBATE	STORE NAME	CARD TYPE	REBATE
Ace Hardware	\$25, \$100	4%	Lowe's	\$20, \$25, \$100, \$500, \$1,000	4%
Aeropostale	\$25	10%	Maurices	\$20	7%
Albertsons	\$10, \$25, \$100	4%	Men's Warehouse	\$25	8%
Amazon.com	\$10, \$25, \$100	3%	Michaels	\$25	4%
Applebee's	\$25, \$50	8%	Noodles & Company	\$10	8%
Arby's	\$10	8%	Office Depot	\$25, \$100	5%
AutoZone	\$25	8%	Office Max	\$25, \$100	5%
Avis Car Rental	\$50	8%	Old Chicago	\$25	6%
Barnes & Noble	\$5, \$10, \$25, \$100	9%	Old Navy	\$256, \$100	14%
Bath & Body Works	\$10, \$25	13%	Olive Garden	\$25	9%
Bed, Bath, & Beyond	\$25, \$100	7%	Outback Steakhouse	\$10, \$25, \$50	8%
Best Buy	\$25, \$100, \$250	4%	Papa John's Pizza	\$10	8%
Best Western	\$25, \$100	12%	Papa Murphy's	\$10	8%
Budget Car Rental	\$50	8%	Payless Shoes	\$20	13%
Buffalo Wild Wings	\$10, \$25	8%	PetSmart	\$25	4%
Burger King	\$10	4%	Pizza Hut	\$10	8%
Cabela's	\$25, \$100	11%	Qdoba Mexican Grill	\$25	7%
Carl's Jr.	\$10	5%	Quality Inn	\$50, \$100	3-4%
Children's Place	\$25	12%	Red Lobster	\$25	9%
Chili's Grill & Bar	\$25, \$50	11%	Red Robin	\$25	9%
Chipotle Mexican Grill	\$10	10%	Regal Theaters	\$10, \$25	8%
Chuck E. Cheese	\$10	8%	Regal Theater Premier Ticket	\$10	10%
Claire's	\$10	9%	REI	\$25	8%
Cold Stone Creamery	\$10	8%	Rite Aid	\$25	4%
Comfort Inn	\$50, \$100	3-4%	Ross Dress for Less	\$25	8%
Dairy Queen	\$10	3%	Safeway	\$25, \$100	4%
Del Taco	\$10	4%	Sally Beauty Supply	\$25	12%
Delta Air Lines	\$250, \$1000	4%	Sam's Club	\$25, \$100, \$250	2.50%
Denny's	\$10	7%	Sears	\$25, \$100, \$250	4%
Domino's	\$10	8%	Sears Auto Service Center	\$25, \$100, \$250	4%
Dressbarn	\$20	8%	Shell	\$25, \$50, \$100	2%
Einstein Bros. Bagels	\$10	10%	Shoe Carnival	\$25	5%
Famous Footwear	\$25	10%	Shutterfly	\$25	9%
Foot Locker	\$25	9%	Sprouts Farmers Market	\$25, \$50, \$100	5%
GameStop	\$25	3%	Starbucks	\$5, \$10, \$25	7%
Gap	\$25, \$100	14%	SUBWAYS Restaurants	\$10, \$50	6%
Great Clips	\$25	8%	Supercuts	\$25	8%
Gymboree	\$25	13%	T.J. Max	\$25, \$100	7%
Herberger's	\$25, \$100	8%	Taco Bell	\$10	5%
Honey Baked Ham	\$25	12%	Target	\$10, \$25, \$50, \$100	3%
iHOP	\$25	8%	Texas Roadhouse	\$25	8%
JCPenney	\$25, \$100	5-6%	The Home Depot	\$25, \$100, \$500, \$1,000	4%
Jiffy Lube	\$30	8%	ULTA	\$25	4%
Jo-Ann Fabric & Craft Store	\$25	6%	Village Inn Restaurants	\$25	13%
Kmart	\$25, \$50	4%	Walgreens	\$25, \$100	6%
Kohl's	\$25, \$100	4%	Walmart	\$25, \$100, \$250	2.50%
Lane Bryant	\$25	8%	Wendy's	\$10	4%
Little Caesar's Pizza	\$20	8%	Zappos.com	\$25, \$100	8%

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

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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.