



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 3, No. 5

February, 2018

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(Part of Stewardship)

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From the Pastor:

From WELS Daily Devotions, 12/21/17

Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited.
Romans 12:16

Humility Creates Harmony

What does it look like when two people live in harmony? They might smile at each other. They might laugh a lot. If two people are in harmony with one another, you would never see them fighting. They would never avoid eye contact with one another. They would never use cutting sarcasm with, or say anything mean about, the other person. Harmonious relationships are good relationships. They can be a great source of joy, encouragement, and strength.

Relationships in which there is some hostility or friction, however, can be quite the opposite. And what are you supposed to do if you have a relationship like that, one that frequently fills you with discouragement or pain? Well, there's one thing you should not do. You should not wait for the other person to make the first move.

Live in harmony (Continued on page 2)

Annual Voters' Meeting/Open Forum

What did we talk about at the January voters' meeting? A copy of the minutes is posted on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. Check it out.

Lent is coming!

Ash Wednesday will start on February 14. We will have a soup supper at 6 PM and worship services at 7 PM. We will use the imposition of ashes as we did last year.

The season leading up to Easter has been called "Lent" for centuries. During this time of year, we have the opportunity to worship together for six consecutive Wednesday evenings. The week ahead of Easter we then meet on Thursday to celebrate the first time Jesus gave his

disciples the Lord's Supper and then again on Friday to commemorate the crucifixion of our Lord.

Our theme is a phrase taken from the Nicene Creed: "**Crucified under Pontius Pilate....**" This Roman governor in Jerusalem played a major role in the trial, condemnation, and crucifixion of Jesus. The focus will be on Jesus, of course, but Pilate's words and actions will lead us through these last few tumultuous hours of Jesus' life and death – culminating in his resurrection.

Stewardship Series

During Lent, our Sunday sermons and themes will focus on "Joyful Generosity." We often think more about what we don't

Stewardship series (Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1) Live in harmony

Today's verse states a godly goal for all your relationships: "Live in harmony with one another." And the instructions as to how you should carry that out all have one thing in common. They all focus your attention on your own heart and actions—not the other person's. "Do not be proud." "Be willing to associate with people of low position." "Do not be conceited." In other words, use your time and energy to love and to serve the other person. Or, to say it another way, do what Jesus did.

When God's relationship with us became broken with sin, the Son of God didn't sit in heaven waiting for us to love him. He came as a baby in Bethlehem. Jesus lowered himself into the humblest of situations, associating himself at birth with the lowliest of families, associating himself throughout his ministry with the most recognizable sinners, and eventually taking the lowest position of all on a cross as a sacrifice for our sins. Why? Because he desired a harmonious relationship with us. And he knew that harmony can only be accomplished by humility.

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, thank you the perfect harmony we enjoy with God because of your humility. In our relationships with one another, help us to humble ourselves, just as you did. Amen.

Council Members

The newly elected Council members are: President: Phil Wiechman, Secretary: Rod Christ, Financial Treasurer: Kevin Schulz, Elder: Steve Davis. The others are listed on the first page of this newsletter.

Crafty Chatters

Crafty Chatters is the new name for the Prayer Shawl Ministry. New meeting time at 2 PM every Tuesday. Come and share your crafty ideas and enjoy the fellowship.

(Continued from page 1) Stewardship series

have and wish we had than we do on what we do have and the blessing of not having more. During this Lenten season, as you consider what Jesus went through, think about what you can do be more appreciative of his efforts and what you can do to promote his work in your life and the life of our church.

Food Shelf

Our Food Shelf dates are the first Sunday of each month. Bring your non-perishable food items and put into the basket near the entrance. Help to make someone's life more pleasant. God blesses us so we can be blessings to others... even those we will never meet.

Missions

Mission Work through the Lutheran Women's Missionary Society:

Greetings from Japan.

The following excerpts are from a Christmas letter written by Pastor Haga of Mito, Japan, about how the Grace Lutheran congregation is reaching out with the gospel and how God is blessing their efforts—one person at a time with results not always evident until decades after the seed of the gospel has been shared. As you read his letter, it is evident a key to evangelism is building relationships which

take time and patience. Please remember this mission in your prayers.

Merry Christmas & A Happy New Year!

Jesus has not been to Grace Church and preached. We have not touched Jesus or have not been healed by him. Jesus is Immanuel. Only for the people whom Jesus met? No. Jesus dwells in us whenever we believe in his Word. We put him on when we were baptized with faith in him. We can take his body and blood whenever we receive Holy Communion. We don't need to hurry to meet Jesus like the shepherds or we don't need to journey to Jerusalem for a long time to meet Jesus, because our Savior who is almighty is with us.

Grace Church

We had four baptisms last year. Mr. Kaneko who called me because he wanted to study the Bible. He used to go to four different churches before that. But he couldn't receive God's Word at these places. The Lord has guided him to the Word of God now. He seems so happy to hear God's Word. He has so many questions at Bible class.

Sometimes we spend about four to five hours to answer his questions and investigate the Bible. He also brings his wife Satomi every Sunday. She enjoys English classes first, but now she also has many questions about the Bible. She is afraid of persecutions if she will be a Christian. But she feels very comfortable and happy to hear God Word every Sunday.

Kazuya is a famous actor and singer and he is the grandson of Koichi Iimura who served as elder for Grace Church for long time. Last year his sister who used to

Missions (Continued on page 3)

Ladies' Fellowship

Mission Statement:

"To share the good news of Jesus Christ at home and around the world through support of mission work, outreach, prayer, fellowship and love."

"Serve one another in love."

Galatians 5:13

The ladies of the congregation have this opportunity to network with each other in devotion and fellowship to carry out God's work in our church at home and in the world. If you have not attended in the past, feel free to stop by. There is no obligation past just wanting to join sisters in the faith for encouragement and Christian dialogue. You may have suggestions for projects and work that can be done in service to the Lord.

ST. PAUL'S LADIES FELLOWSHIP

ATTENDING: Kathy Strong, Carolyn Hercher, Gretchen Fenske, Lola Radeck, Miriam Grafe, Diana Bargsten, Nina Christ and Maureen Worland. Kathy open with devotion from Luther's Word of Truth and a prayer.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: November minutes approved. No minutes for December meeting (cookie exchange).

TREASURER'S REPORT: Balance \$1,326.42. Moved to accept by Miriam, seconded by Maureen.

(Continued from page 2) Missions

come to Sunday school with him was taken into heaven. She had terminal cancer, but the trial woke her faith up again. She told me that any words of encouragement from friend or family have no foundation or source, but only God's Word can encourage her and give her peace. Now the light of Christ shines through Kazuya to his wife Tomoko and his twin children Koki and Sae. Koki means

Approved as read.

CORRESPONDENCE: Pregnancy Center, Point of Grace, The Center. LWMS news. WELS thank you.

OLD BUSINESS:

Calendar update, will order fewer next year.

Advent by Candlelight success, will do again next year.

Greeting cards- will order less next time. Check catalogs.

New treasurer's office to be shared by Gretchen and Marie. Miriam moved and Lola seconded account be moved to Western Rockies Credit union.

NEW BUSINESS

Sunshine committee reinstated, Maureen will continue sending cards. Carolyn moved and Miriam seconded Ladies Fellowship to fund stamps.. Approved.

Monthly mission for December and January -

Maureen moved and Miriam seconded we send \$300 to The Center. Approved.

Kitchen help needed to keep track of needs.

Lenten soup suppers to continue, sign up sheet to be posted .

Maureen moved and Carolyn seconded we adjourn at 11/45 a.m. Motion carried.

Luncheon and baby shower for Samuel, Adrienne and Jeremiah followed.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

Maureen Worland

"the light of hope" Sae means "bloom of grace." What wonderful Christian names. Tomoko was also a famous actress but retired. She could study the Bible and join worship through Skype.

We hope you keep us in your prayer this year.

From Haga family

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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Worship Services:

Sunday mornings 9:00 AM
Fellowship: 10:00 AM
Sunday School: 10:15 AM
Bible Study: 10:30 AM
Monday Bible Study: 7:30 PM

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