



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. 6

March, 2018

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(Part of Stewardship)

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From the Pastor:

1 Corinthians 15:3-8 (EHV) *"³ For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁴ that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁵ and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the Twelve. ⁶ After that he appeared to over five hundred brothers at the same time, most of whom are still alive, but some have fallen asleep. ⁷ Then he appeared to James, and then to all the apostles. ⁸ Last of all, he appeared also to me, the stillborn child, so to speak."* (Evangelical Heritage Version)

Holy Week is here!

Services this coming week culminate the 40 days of Lent that we have been observing. We have heard about how Pontius Pilate was instrumental in carrying out God's prophecy and plan to save humankind from their sins. The focus of Holy Week will be squarely on the suffering and death of Jesus. He willingly went to the cross knowingly to experience the weight of all sin on his shoulders. But it didn't end with his death. We celebrate his resurrection from the dead on the following Sunday morning that we call Easter Sunday. At early dawn, followers of Jesus who were mourning his death arrived at the tomb fully

Holy Week is here! (Continued on page 2)

Holy Week Schedule

Maundy Thursday, 7 PM

Good Friday, 3 PM

Easter Sunrise 7 AM (at the Devil's Kitchen picnic area on the Colorado National Monument—road will be open during construction)

Easter Breakfast 8 AM

Easter Festival Service 9 AM

Delegate need fulfilled

The Nebraska District Convention will be held in June. Each congregation sends their called workers and a delegate from the church membership. We thank Phil Wiechman for accepting the invitation to attend on behalf of St. Paul church.

LWMS Missions

Mission Work through the Lutheran Women's Missionary Society:

Caribbean Scholarship Fund

Caribbean Scholarship Fund is a home mission project on the 2018 Spring Ballot. Contributions to this special scholarship fund will help eager Caribbean students to have access to our synod's worker training college and seminary, to help meet the need for highly trained called workers to serve in the three national congregations, schools, and future high school.

Note: The fund at the synod office to which all US donations go is called the Caribbean Scholarship Fund. The account set up in Antigua is called the CCTI scholarship fund. They are one and the same. If anyone

LWMS Missions (Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 1) Holy Week is here!

expecting a dead body that was to be prepared for embalming and final rest. Word got out that there was no body! There were even angels announcing that this dead body was now alive and well. While the naysayers (religious leaders in Jerusalem) did not want to believe it... though they had to consider in their hearts the truth, they passed along some fake news that friends of Jesus took his body. How naïve of them to think their plan would work. St. Paul would later recount that there were many, many people who saw Jesus alive. How could the religious leaders dispute these eye witness accounts? Perhaps God didn't allow them the pleasure (or disdain) of hearing about these accounts. Nevertheless, the Word is out there now throughout the world and through out the rest of time. You and I are recipients of this knowledge and have the opportunity to share it with those around you.

First, will you be worshipping the Savior on Maundy Thursday and/or Good Friday? Will you let the people around you know what you believe and celebrate?

Will Easter Sunday morning be different than any other Sunday or any other day of the week?

Second, how will people know what you believe if you don't tell them? Will you invite a friend who can share the excitement and joy of knowing what Jesus accomplished?

If Jesus isn't worth your time to come and worship him with fellow believers, what is that saying about your faith? Could it be selfishness that you don't want to share your faith? Could it be indifference that you don't really care what Jesus did? Or would it be that you might think you are too busy for God to give him the time of day?

I'm sure that many "Christians" will find excuses for not worshipping God on Easter... or any other Sunday. It does come down to your attitude towards God. Either he is worth your time or he isn't that important. Do you care enough to plan out your time so that you can worship? Yes, it will be between you and God. But he would rather that you show your faith in public.

I can't imagine what would have happened if Jesus had showed himself to all those people after he rose from the dead and they all just went on their merry way as though nothing happened and they didn't tell anyone because they thought that it was just between them and Jesus.

Christians do not hide their faith and they do not ignore worshipping the Lord. And Jesus still wants his people to tell the world. This is exciting news that can't be kept to oneself.

It all starts with public acknowledgement in worship.

Stewardship Committee—Long Range Planning

Thanks to all who took the opportunity to fill out the survey for our long range planning.

The Committee will compile the results and put together a plan for our church for the future. Some of the objectives will be based on our finances and some based on the participation of the members and all will be according to God's good will and pleasure.

Our goal is to be good stewards of what we have and what we can do to glorify God as we continue to serve our members and reach out to the community and world to share the Good news of Jesus.

Bible Information/Membership Classes

We will begin a series of Bible Information classes after Easter. They will be held on Wednesday evenings from 7 to 8 PM. If you know of someone who is interested either in becoming a member or want to know more about the Bible teachings, please have them contact Pastor Strong for more information. (If that evening doesn't work, we can accommodate.) Otherwise we will start no April 4.

Communion Explanation bookmarks

Sometimes it is hard to explain our communion practice to guests on short notice when they attend our worship service. To help them to better understand our practice, we have placed laminated bookmarks in all of our hymnals. That way you and visitors can get a better understanding of why we practice "close" communion. If you would like a copy for yourself to share with someone or to better equip you for when you are asked about our practice, please see the pastor or our office manager, Gretchen Fenske. We have extra copies available.

Welcome new member

We welcome Betty Wilkinson to our congregation. She comes to us from the Wyoming area. May God bless her as she joins us in worship and fellowship.



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—March 17 meeting:

ATTENDING: Kathy Strong, Carolyn Hercher, Gretchen Fenske, Miriam Grafe, and Maureen Worland.

Kathy open with devotion from Luther's Word of Truth and a prayer.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: February minutes accepted unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Balance \$1,231.72 accepted unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE: Pregnancy Center update. LWMS news. Kids Care information.

Council news

The next Open Forum and Quarterly Voters' meeting will be on Sunday, April 8. We will bring everyone up to date as to what is happening with church business.

We are presently seeking information and bids to put a zone of sprinklers in east of the fellowship hall. When that gets seeded, we would like to make it look nice

LWMS REPORT: National convention will be in Green Bay, Wisconsin on June 21. April 20th is the Rocky Mountain LWMS convention in Denver.

OLD BUSINESS:

Greeting cards - discussion tabled until next meeting. Essential oils in Bible presentation tentatively scheduled for April meeting 21st.

Banners discussed. We will try to get ideas from women of church.

Lenten suppers to continue.

NEW BUSINESS

Monthly mission donations: Maureen moved, and Carolyn seconded \$100 to Hue's funeral expenses. Motion carried.

Easter breakfast discussed. Set up Saturday before at 10:00 a.m. Potluck meal. Will use paper plates as not enough of other plates.

Pastor will be taking kids bowling on March 18.

Game day planned for May 12th, from 2 to 4. Bring snacks.

Flowers requested for Easter service.

Carolyn reported on Starbucks gift cards for pastor to give to college youth.

Maureen moved, and Gretchen seconded we adjourn at 11:45 a.m. Motion carried. Luncheon followed.

Next meeting April 21, 2018. Ask Kristie Roder to present on essential oils in Bible. No regular business meeting, but lunch to follow.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

Maureen Worland

for ourselves and our neighbors (Capella of Grand Junction Assisted Living). We are also looking for ways to help our lawn grow better along 26 1/2 Road. That grass did not do well last year. If you have suggestions, please talk to one of the Trustees.

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

wants to donate in the States, they need to earmark it for the Caribbean Scholarship Fund.

“The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into his harvest field.”

Matthew 9: 37

Ask anyone involved with the Caribbean Christian Training Institute (CCTI) about the organization’s goals and they will, without a doubt, hear the echoing response of God’s grace guides us. CCTI is made up of Lutheran churches in Antigua, Grenada, and St. Lucia. The scholarship board has dedicated itself to ensuring that members of these congregations who wish to become full-time called workers are adequately trained both spiritually and professionally on a full scholarship to eliminate the burden of financial stress.

While our faith in Christ our Saviour makes us one, our cultures make us different. CCTI understands this concept. The board also recognizes that there are large numbers of people that still need to hear the gospel message from the national people who will be trained as the future Caribbean pastors and teachers who attend Martin Luther College in New Ulm, Minnesota. Upon graduation students return to their home congregations or wherever their service is needed in the Caribbean.

To receive such a blessing through the commitment of the CCTI does not mean the journey at MLC will be smooth sailing. Does the experience present culture shock? Yes. Understanding the challenges that come with studying abroad, the dedication of board members goes beyond ensuring that financial obligations are met. Once or twice every semester, students will touch base with a CCTI board member through Skype to discuss the journey – progress, challenges, and future plans. Pastor Spiegelberg in St.

Lucia says, “We want to support our students financially, spiritually, and emotionally as we prepare to meet our congregational needs in the future.” While only God knows the thoughts and feelings of each Caribbean student, he works through these conversations to provide us with the support and direction that we need.

In 2015 and 2016 Joycelyn Christmas and Evodia Cassius graduated respectively from Martin Luther College. Joycelyn serves as a 6th grade and coaching teacher at St. John’s Primary in Antigua and shares that, “Education is important to me and the scholarship allowed me to pursue a dream that seemed impossible due to my financial situation.” She also says that the Christian relationships she built during her time at MLC are among her treasured memories. As the director of the Early Childhood Centre in St. Lucia, Evodia shares, “Having received this blessing through CCTI has put me in a position where I am closer to God. I am responsible for teaching God’s Word to ‘my children’ every day (she affectionately refers to all her students as ‘my children’) and staff devotions are spiritually enriching.”

I look forward to graduating in May. I look forward to joining my fellow brothers and sisters in Christ that have gone before me. I am looking forward to going back to the Caribbean to spread the message of the gospel. I have been blessed with a sound education through the generosity of others like the Lutheran Women’s Missionary Society which provides financial assistance through the Caribbean Scholarship Fund. I am equipped with the resources, a network of professors that vow to offer continued support after graduation, the necessary skillsets, and knowledge that my God is with me no matter what comes my way. I am ready, send me!

~ Tassia-Channel Clement

Evangelism update

If you have a chance to drive out past Mesa Mall on Redlands Parkway, you will see a digital sign that flashes different advertisers on it. St. Paul is one of them. During March we have a message about Easter along with our website.

It appears on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays between 3 PM and 9 PM. The message lasts about 8 seconds before the next advertiser comes up. Our messages shows up about 144 times each of those days. It costs just over a penny per time that it shows up (called a “blip”). The message that comes up is shown in the next column.

Jesus is alive!

Come celebrate with us

April 1 at 9 AM St. Paul Lutheran

www.stpaulgj.org



Address Service Requested

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



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

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Pastor's Cell: 612-709-4772
Website: www.stpaulgj.org
Email: church@stpaulgj.org
pastorstrong@stpaulgj.org

Worship Services:

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

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

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