



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 5, No. 1

June 2019

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Book keeper

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From the Pastor:

Romans 9:6–8 (NIV84)⁶ *It is not as though God's word had failed. For not all who are descended from Israel are Israel. ⁷ Nor because they are his descendants are they all Abraham's children. On the contrary, "It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned."* ⁸ *In other words, it is not the natural children who are God's children, but it is the children of the promise who are regarded as Abraham's offspring.*

I read this recent article:

Unsaved "Christians" are as separated from God as atheists, agnostics and those of other religions that reject the name of Jesus Christ. I define cultural Christianity as the claim of being a Christian, without the gospel being essential for that claim. What we see in cultural Christianity is a generic theism, that shows up as "Christian" on a poll or survey, but has nothing to do with the work of Christ on the cross and through his resurrection. Conversion and repentance are not necessary, as one believes they are a Christian merely because they aren't atheists, have a religious heritage or see themselves as good moral people.

There are many who claim to be Christians. What exactly is a "Christian"? It should be one who follows Christ Jesus. Yet we see many who follow their own whims and expect that God will accept them on their terms rather than his terms. Some think that because they grew up in a Christian family and they live good lives, God will accept them into heaven. They know nothing of Jesus and forgiveness. They twist Scriptures around to validate their sinful lifestyle and expect that God will still let them into heaven because he loves everyone and doesn't want anyone in hell and since he forgives all sin, they can

Being a true Christian (Continued on page 3)

Pastoral Visits

Pastor Strong will be meeting with every member during July and August. These will be half hour sessions with the following questions to keep in mind:

- ◇ What is it about your congregation that makes it special and something that you would like to share with other people?
- ◇ How can we better partner together for the sake of the Gospel?
- ◇ What are strengths and improvements that we can do for the sake of the work of the Lord?

- ◇ What are your spiritual gifts? (First, what are spiritual gifts?)
- ◇ What would you need to have in hand to invite a neighbor to church?

To help facilitate these visits, you may go online (<https://stpaul.setmore.com>) and self-schedule a date and time to meet with the pastor. You can choose to have him come to your home or you can chose to come to the church. Either way works. They will be half hour time slots.

Pastoral Visits (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.

There will be no meetings in July and August. Next meeting will be September 21 at 11:00 AM.

Council updates

Financial reports through May are posted on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. We thank the Lord for blessing us with a good outlook at this time. We were able to pay \$14,000 towards our loan leaving about \$18,000 to pay. Please continue to support our effort to pay off our loan.

We will not have a July meeting.

Thanks to all involved in the entryway expansion project. It will be done by the weekend.

The Council has been looking into **landscaping along 26 1/2 Road**. We have had a landscape designer provide drawings of what it could look like. The drawings are posted in the Fellowship Hall hallway. Check them out. We don't have any immediate plans but just wanted to explore what we could do to make our property better looking.

All- church cleaning on June 29 at 9 AM

On Saturday, June 29, the Council has scheduled a church work day. We would like to clean windows, dust the entire church building, pull weeds, trim bushes, enjoy each others' company, gaze upon the beauty of God's house of worship. Come and help us. We will officially start at 9:00 AM.



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 1) **Pastoral Visits**

If you don't have internet access or wish not to schedule online, you can call pastor and schedule (after July 26). Or eventually, Pastor Strong will contact you. But you can help to make it simpler by going to: **https://stpaul.setmore.com** Scheduling will begin July 16. You can set up appointments now. Also, you will be provided email reminders so that if you schedule a month in advanced, it will not let you forget. The goal is to complete by September 1st.



Fifth Sunday Potluck

June 30 will be the fifth Sunday. That means it is time for a fellowship potluck meal! The Council decided that we would have it immediately after our worship service. So plan on a brunch style potluck beginning right after the church service is done. Bring a favorite breakfast food or lunch food or dessert and all appetites will be satisfied. Take the time to get to know one another better as well.

Pregnancy Center Donations

June is our Pregnancy Center Donations month, here is the list of things they need this time:

- Always need sizes 4 & 5 diapers
- Fragrance free wipes
- Toilet Paper
- Sleepers
- 12 month clothing
- Onsies
- Socks for boys & girls

- Layette Items: Newborn to 6 months clothing & sleepers & they always are in need of towels & wash clothes

Also, volunteers needed for all positions, no experience necessary as they will train to fit their unique curriculum.

Shepherding Network

As mentioned in the last newsletter, our Elders have discussed for a few months the idea to have a way of keeping in touch with all of our members, not just the ones who are always at church for all the functions. We hope to implement the Shepherding Network beginning in August. You can look over a brochure that is available on the back pew in the Sanctuary to see how it works. We will be seeking volunteer shepherds to help us out in this endeavor. If you would be willing to serve as a shepherd/shepherdess, please speak to Pastor Strong.

Evangelism update

We will continue to solicit video responses for a promotional video for our church.

What do you like about St. Paul church? What brought you here? What would you want to say to anyone who wants to know? We will be video-taping interviews of less than 2 minutes from members who will express their thoughts on our church. If you would like to take part, contact Bob Grafe. Or, he may contact you. We do have members already willing to do this. We will be seeking more. The videos will be compiled into a YouTube presentation and will be available for people inquiring about our church on our website.

(Continued from page 1) **Being a true Christian**

continue to sin. Hebrews 10:26-27 (NIV84) ²⁶ *If we deliberately keep on sinning after we have received the knowledge of the truth, no sacrifice for sins is left,* ²⁷ *but only a fearful expectation of judgment and of raging fire that will consume the enemies of God."*

To be a true Christian means to accept God at his Word, believe in Jesus as the only true Savior, rely upon his work and forgiveness, and live by his rules (10 Commandments). It is a mighty task. But God never said it would be easy. Being a Christian is more than just saying you are one. It is more than paying lip

service. It is hard work. Don't give up. Keep on reading the Bible and praying that God instills knowledge and wisdom in you. Don't let those who proclaim to be Christian but are not deceive you. Listen to the Word. Grow in faith.

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

Church Office: 970-243-3626
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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