



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 6, No. 4

November, 2020

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From the Pastor:

Psalm 106:1-2 (EHV) ¹ *Praise the LORD. Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his mercy endures forever.* ² *Who can tell about the mighty deeds of the LORD? Who can cause all his praise to be heard?* Doing a search on a Bible program, the phrase "give thanks to the Lord" is used 24 times in the Old Testament (EHV edition, each translation may have a word or two different). One commentator

defines what this phrase means: Praise you the Lord, that is, give him thanks for his goodness, the manifestation of it to us, and the many instances of it. He is good and his mercy endures for ever; let us therefore own our obligations to him and make him a return of our best affections and services. 2. Give him the glory of his greatness, his mighty acts, proofs of his almighty power, wherein he has done great things, and such as would be opposed. Who can utter these? Who is worthy to do it? Who is able to do it? They are so many that they cannot be numbered, so mysterious that they cannot be described; when we have said the most we can of the mighty acts of the Lord, the one half is not told; still there is more to be said; it is a subject that cannot be exhausted. We must show forth his praise; we may show forth some of it, but who can show forth all? Not the angels themselves. This will not excuse us in not doing what we can, but should quicken us to do all we can. With the national holiday of Thanksgiving, the emphasis is to give thanks for all that we have. We can punctuate that with the "to whom" we give

Give thanks to the Lord (Continued on page 2)

Advent and Christmas

What will 2020 bring for Advent and Christmas this year? One thing for sure, we will still celebrate. We have a Savior whose birth we can't help but commemorate and celebrate. Maybe there won't be all the worldly festivities. That is okay. Some of them are over-hyped anyways. But we will still praise the Lord for sending Jesus into our world to save us from our sins.

Midweek Advent services will be held at 6:30 PM on Dec. 2, 9, 16. We will not have Soup Suppers this year. But please join us for worship under the theme: "Promises! Promises! Promises!" We will explore the promises of God that led up to the birth of Jesus and what the future holds.

Christmas Eve is still under discussion. More than likely the government will still advise small groups. The Council is

considering having two Christmas Eve services... one at 3:00 PM and the second at 6:30 PM. So that not everyone shows up at one time or the other, we are looking for suggestions. One thought is to "make reservations" for the service you wish to attend (or no preference). That would give us an idea on how many to expect at each service.

The Council will decide at their December meeting (8th) and let everyone know.

Church decorating

Due to circumstances that we are all aware of, we will be decorating differently this year to keep the number people in close contact with each other at a minimum. Rather than having everyone show up at the same time, you are invited to stop by church

Church decorating (Continued on page 2)

WELS workings

(What does it mean to be part of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod?)

Have you visited wels.net lately?

Do you ever wonder how your Sunday offerings help support the work of WELS? Go to wels.net to discover stories about the many WELS world and home mission fields; explore which ministries can support you and your congregation; enjoy daily devotions and Bible readings; and subscribe to stay up to date on the latest news from your synod. All of this and more is available on wels.net. Visit us online today and save us as a Favorite or a Bookmark!

(Continued from page 1) **Church decorating**

any time after this coming Saturday and do some decorating. The tree will be put up on Saturday. You may come and put up other decorations when you have a chance. There will be directions and supplies available so you know what to do. Could be good “family time” when you bring your whole family to help.

Christian Worship: New hymnal updates

Tidbits of information have been put into the bulletin every week about what the new hymnal will offer. Just recently the website was updated to include more information. You can go to: <https://www.christianworship.com/> and find out more. Added to the website is a “Preview” tab that provides a partial look at what will be on the pages of the new hymnal as well as an explanation for the layout. Check it out.

Church’s 50th Anniversary

The Anniversary Committee is beginning its work to help us to celebrate God’s blessings upon our church for the last 50 years. We will plan a two Sunday celebration to be held on June 12 and June 19, 2022. Put it on your calendar! We will put together a history of our church, create an anniversary logo, and put together displays of photos from the past. If you have documents or photos that you feel could be used, please consult with Mike and Lola Radeck, Zac Radeck, and Bob and Miriam Grafe. They are our committee.

Donations through Facebook

Did you know you can make donations to St. Paul church through our Facebook page? You can. It has been done and it works well. We have had contributions made through Facebook. Just go to our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/stpaulgj>) and click on the “donate” button. Follow the instructions.

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thanks. Jesus has done so much for us beyond the materialistic things. He has provided us with spiritual living and even blessed us with material things. He has blessed us not only with what we need but even more... what we want (some of the time). Thanksgiving isn’t something that we have to reserve for a special day. It is something we are to do every day.

But government officials are “cancelling” Thanksgiving or telling us not to gather to celebrate. Thank God that Thanksgiving Day is a national holiday and not a religious one. Of course there are

also rumblings about trying to cancel Christmas. Like that is going to happen! It doesn’t matter what man tells us. God assures us that we can celebrate, honor, and praise him every day in all circumstances, whether good or bad. The more we celebrate God in our lives, the more opportunity for the rest of the world to learn about just who God is and how he has blessed us tremendously, both physical and spiritual.

The Pilot is a monthly newsletter of St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church. Articles are to be submitted to the editor by the 15^h 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

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.

Bake, Book and Craft Sale

A big THANK YOU to everyone who donated and bought items from the Craft & Bake Sale! \$998 was raised to help with mission projects!! We are truly blessed to be able to share our blessings with others. We will be able to support many mission endeavors and local charities.

Next meeting will be December 12 at 11:00 AM for Christmas party and cookie exchange.

If God Had Voice Mail

Thank you for calling heaven. I am sorry, all of our angels and saints are busy helping other sinners right now. However, your prayer is important to us and we will answer it in the order it was received. Please stay on the line. If you would like to speak to: God, press 1. Jesus, press 2. The Holy Spirit, press 3. If you would like to hear King David sing a Psalm while you are holding, press 4. To find a loved one who has been

assigned to Heaven, press 5, then enter his or her social security number followed by the pound sign. (If you get a negative response, please hang up and try area code 666.) For reservations in heaven, please enter J-O-H-N 3:16. For answers to nagging questions about dinosaurs, the age of the earth, life on other planets, and where Noah's Ark is, please wait until you arrive. If you are calling after hours and need emergency assistance, please contact your local pastor.

How to invest in others

Here are some easy ways you can invest in others:

Screen Sharers—Got plans to watch the game? Share your screen and invite others to join you. Invite them to [watch the Time of Grace TV program too](#).

The Nice Ninja—Wave and visit with your neighbor. Shovel your neighbor's driveway. Scrape snow off his or her car. Rake their front yard. Bake your nearest neighbors something delicious. Commit random acts of anonymous kindness.

No Phone Zone—Refuse to use your phone in public places. Instead, look for opportunities to invest in people.

The Encourager—Gain a good reputation by writing a weekly text/email/note of encouragement to teachers, coaches, coworkers, etc.

Neighborhood Watch—Set a goal to talk to every neighbor you see outside. Getting the mail will never be the same!

Knockin' on Heaven's Door—Pray behind people's backs. Ask God to make you a blessing to them and open a door for the gospel.

You will be amazed how good you feel to invest in others. Don't forget to purposefully teach your kids to do the same.

(From Time of Grace, November 14, 2020)

Address Service Requested

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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
Bible Study: 10:30 AM
Monday Bible Study: 7:00 PM

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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 the office and you will be notified each month
when the newsletter is ready and you can read it online.