

# June

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

The most common attack on baptism comes from Christians who say and believe that nothing has really changes in baptism, particularly in infant baptism. Many denominations teach that Christians must be born again, which means that a person must demonstrate their obedience to God by accepting Jesus as their Lord and Savior.

This old legal scheme tries to convince us that obedience to the law is a ladder that we climb to perfection. The legal scheme constantly calls the sinner to move towards righteousness. If you obey the law, you will be righteous before God. The legal scheme seductively whispers to us: "You can do it! You have it in you! You can fulfill the law and earn your own righteousness before God."

When Christians fall into this trap, we tend to water down the law. Instead of seeing it as a skyscraper that we cannot hurtle under our own power, we start looking at it as a knee-high hurdle, or even an ankle high hurdle. We determine for ourselves what we think God reasonably believes would be sufficient for us to do to please him, and then we measure our performance against that. How many times a month should we go to church? How often should we pray? Or we even water it down to such an extent that we may think that if we just say, "I give my life to Jesus," that will be enough to please God. And then of course there are the measurements of our performances as husbands and wives, mothers and fathers, breadwinners, community volunteers or supporters, etc. We turn these vocations into our salvation projects, and they then become a weight that is too heavy for us to bear.

But in Romans 7 Paul explains, instead, that in baptism everything has changed. No more dramatic change can happen. You have died, and therefore the law no longer applies to you. When you belong to Christ, you are dead to sin, and the law has no more power over you. This means that the law is no longer your means of becoming righteous, and, in fact, it is revealed to you that it never was. The belief that the law was given to make you righteous is revealed as a futile one, which had no possibility of succeeding at any point in your life. In baptism and after baptism, the movement then is not yours - not your climbing of the ladder. When you are made a new creature through the promise of Christ in baptism, your movement -your actions, thoughts, morality, obedience, and good works, which you have measured and counted for so long - are replaced so that they are no longer the center of your life and your hope.

Instead, the movement is all Christ's. Christ moves in upon the sinner until he is "closer to me than I am to myself." Your life then is hidden in Christ. Everything depends upon whom you listen to - either the law or Christ. For the New Creature, who listens only to Christ, the law is revealed to you as futile in making you righteous. The law cannot promise you life, but rather Christ is your life. And the law cannot "get you" any longer because you are dead to the law, because it is Christ who has come to rescue you, to "get you," and to bring you to himself in the waters of your baptism. And your Christ has promised that he will not let you go.

We are left with the question, "What has the law has been given for if not to make us righteous?" Stay tuned next month as the Apostle Paul answers that question. Until then, see you in church!

Love from your sister in Christ,

Pr. Tricia

## St. Paul Lutheran Church—Church Council Meeting - May 12, 2021, at 7:45 p.m.

Chairman Matt Sargent called the meeting to order at 7:50 p.m. Members present were Matt Sargent, Dave Bittler, Bill Vogel, Tim Vogel, Doug Jeske, Angel Clemon, Pastor Tricia and Jeff Krueger. Also present were Katie Mueller, Parish Coordinator, Anita Jensen, Financial Secretary and Ed Meidl. Member absent were Craig Valentin.

Pastor Tricia led the group in a prayer.

M/S/P to approve the Secretary's minutes from the April meeting.

M/S/P to approve the Financial Report as printed.

Building and Grounds Report:

- Parsonage Basement project is complete and all bills have been paid. There is one outlet not working and did not pass the final inspection.
- Derek Krebs Construction will begin the parsonage roof project in about two months.

Parish Education Report:

- Finalizing Vacation Bible School (June 6-10) plans. Parish Ed. will meet again May 18 regarding VBS. Looking for student registrations and volunteer helpers.

Pastor's Report:

Visitation

- Visitation with members in their homes, at the nursing home and assisted living.

Worship

- Led worship at St. John's Home for the residents to watch live in their rooms on April 20, 2021. Moving forward, St. John's is allowing residents to gather in the chapel for worship and to receive Holy Communion.
- Led Holy Communion Worship at Downtown Estates on April 26, 2021.
- Presided at funeral of Lydia Jeske on April 19, 2021.
- Presided at graveside services of Lennis Arndt on May 2, 2021 and Richard Stevens on May 10, 2021.

Confirmation

- Ended wonderful year of Confirmation with a party on April 28, 2021.
- Met with each eighth grader and a parent to review their faith statements; met with all eighth graders to run through Affirmation of Baptism service on April 28, 2021.
- Confirmed Parker Gluth, Abigail Jensen and Nickolas Rogotzke on May 2, 2021.
- Enjoyed attending confirmation parties.

Parish Education

- Attended the Parish Education Committee meeting on May 3, 2021.
- Taught the seventh and eighth grade Sunday School class through our last day May 9, 2021.
- Leading Bible Study on Mondays at 3:00 p.m. at The Maples.
- Leading Bible Study on Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m. at church.

Community

- Met with Administrator Tom Goeritz for St. John's Circle of Care board member training on April 20, 2021.
- Attended St. John's Circle of Care Board Meeting April 26, 2021.
- Worked at German Supper on April 21, 2021.
- Attended seventh and eighth grade baseball games on April 22 and May 3, 2021.
- Submitted the article "Resurrection of the Body" to the *Advance-Press* on April 22, 2021.
- Attended Jenniges and Reiner Scholarship Meetings on April 29 and May 11, 2021, scored applications and helped to determine scholarship awards

Old Business:

- Recording/live broadcasting equipment still needs to be installed.
- Mission Sponsorship Committee needs to meet to set up this year’s benevolence choices. Matt will set up an email meeting to get this accomplished.
- M/S/P to purchase a new flower cooler from Windschitl Appliance and Refrigeration for \$3,800. It will be similar to the one we have now. He will take old one with him. One member has pledged \$500 toward the purchase. May be Marie Weinberger memorial money for part. Rest of cost will come from Memorial Funds.
- German Supper was successful—sold out in one hour. Katie thanked everyone who helped. Profit as of May 9, 2021 is \$2,856.86.
- No applicants for the Housekeeping position. Lisa’s last day is Friday, May 14. Simply Maids has toured the building and will let us know the cost of having their cleaning service. Simply Clean will tour the building and determine cleaning costs as well. Will ask for volunteers to help clean until we have a cleaning person or service in place.

New Business:

- M/S/P to make the following changes to the church’s COVID Policy:
  1. Go to 100% capacity
  2. Begin using hymnals again
  3. No more attendance taken each Sunday
  4. No more daily COVID cleaning checklists
  5. Use any entrance to enter the building
  6. Take down special restroom signs used during COVID
  7. Open Fellowship Hall to full capacity

Masks will still be required at this time. Holy Communion will not change at this time.

- No masks required at outside VBS in June unless it moves inside due to weather.
- Decided to hold off on Coffee Talk again until a new cleaning person or service is in place.

M/S/P to adjourn at 8:40 p.m. Closed with the Lord’s Prayer.  
Next meeting will be Wednesday, June 9, 2021 at 7:45 p.m.

~Jeff Krueger, Church Council Secretary

**NOTICE: Our June Church Council Meeting will be on Wednesday, June 9th at 8:30 PM due to Vacation Bible School.**

**Deadlines:**

**Sunday Bulletin:**

Wednesday by 10 am.

**Epistle:** 20th of each month.

Please call or email the church office with additions or changes for the bulletins or Epistle.

stpaul\_lutheran@hotmail.com

**2021 Church Council**

Matt Sargent- Chair	Dave Bittler	Angel Clemon
Bill Vogel- Vice Chair	Doug Jeske	Tim Vogel
Jeff Krueger - Secretary	Craig Valentin - Treasurer	
There are 2 vacancies		

The Board of Parish Education is seeking 2 new board members. Please talk to Katie in the office of Pastor Tricia if you are interested in joining Parish Ed.

Notice: Please update your phone numbers and/or email address with the church office! Several of the numbers we have are disconnected and we need to know how to get a hold of you! You can leave a note in the box outside of Katie’s office, use one of the yellow information cards in the church pews, call or email the church office at 507-723-5880 or stpaul\_lutheran@hotmail.com. We appreciate you keeping us updated!

St Paul Attendance

5/02/21 9am - 77

5/09/21 9am - 88

5/16/21 9am - 52

5/23/21 9am - 59

Budget Recap Year-To-Date (01/01/21 to 5/22/21)

Total Funds for Budget	\$54,566.98	Total Operating Funds	\$54,566.98
Budget	\$70,195.60	Operating Exp.	\$55,566.29
Difference	(\$15,628.62)	Difference	(\$999.31)

**Thrivent Financial**—As always, St. Paul Lutheran Church is grateful for your consideration when you make charitable giving plans. If you are a Thrivent Financial member eligible to direct Choice Dollars<sup>SM</sup>, we ask you to consider St. Paul Lutheran as you help direct Thrivent Financials charitable funds.

Memorials Given From 4/26/21 to 04/25/21

<b>In Memory:</b>	<b>Given by:</b>	<b>Designated for:</b>
Lydia Jeske	Carol Carlson	Good Shephard Scholarship Fund
	Friends & Family	St. Paul Lutheran Church
	Daniel Kettner	St. Paul Lutheran Church
	Larry & Kathy Pederson	St. Paul Lutheran Church
	Gary & Nancy Renner	St. Paul Lutheran Church
	Warren & Kathy Hauger	St. Paul Lutheran Church
	Ed Meidl	St. Paul Lutheran Church
	Audrey Rositzke	St. Paul Lutheran Church
	Richard & Lois Zihlke	St. Paul Lutheran Church
	Tim & Jill Vogel	St. Paul Lutheran Church
	Kenneth & Sharon Renner	St. Paul Lutheran Church
	Arland Kettner	St. Paul Lutheran Church
	Delwin & Beverly Beussman	St. Paul Lutheran Church
	Tim & Cindy Zeman	St. Paul Lutheran Church
Family Medicine Residency Program	St. Paul Lutheran Church	
Noel Pidde	John & Katie Mueller	St. Paul Lutheran Church
	Roger & Kelly Sargent	St. Paul Lutheran Church
	Robert & Sharon Rogotzke	St. Paul Lutheran Church
	Daniel Kettner	St. Paul Lutheran Church
	Arland Kettner	St. Paul Lutheran Church
Eileen Schiller Raddatz	Richard & Joyce Lowsman	Good Shephard Scholarship Fund

Please pray for... Delwin Beussman, William Matzke (brother of Alvin Matzke), Crissy Rogotzke; Jesse Kettner, Emily Wendt, Joseph Wendt, Tabor Gluth and all those serving in the military, at home and abroad.

**Prayer Chain** – If you have a prayer concern you would like passed along to the Prayer Chain, please call Jan Severson (723-6358) or the church office (723-5880). Please specify if you want the concern on (1) the Prayer Chain and/or (2) included in Sunday morning prayers which will be included for **two** Sundays unless otherwise specified or request is renewed.

# June 2021

**Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b> 6:00 pm Bible Study 7:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast	<b>2</b> 10:00 Ch. 8 Broadcast 6:30 pm Worship on Wednesday	<b>3</b> 7:00 pm VBS Meeting	<b>4</b> Office Closed	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> 9:00 Worship 10:30 Ch. 8 Broadcast  <b>5:15-8:15</b> <b>VBS @ Riverside Park</b>	<b>7</b> 3:00 pm The Maples Bible Study  <b>5:15-8:15</b> <b>VBS @ Riverside Park</b>	<b>8</b> No Bible Study 7:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast  <b>5:15-8:15</b> <b>VBS @ Riverside Park</b>	<b>9</b> 10:00 Ch. 8 Broadcast <b>8:30 pm Church Council Meeting</b> <b>5:15-8:15</b> <b>VBS @ Riverside Park</b>	<b>10</b>  <b>5:15-8:30</b> <b>VBS @ Riverside Park</b> <b>8:00 pm VBS Closing Program</b>	<b>11</b> Office Closed	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> 9:00 Worship 10:30 Ch. 8 Broadcast	<b>14</b> 3:00 pm The Maples Bible Study	<b>15</b> 10:00 am SJLH Worship 6:00 pm Bible Study 3:00 The Maples HC 7:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast	<b>16</b> 10:00 Ch. 8 Broadcast	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Office Closed	<b>19</b>
<b>20 Happy Father's Day!</b> 9:00 Worship 10:30 Ch. 8 Broadcast	<b>21</b> 3:00 pm The Maples Bible Study	<b>22</b> 6:00 pm Bible Study 7:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast	<b>23</b> 10:00 Ch. 8 Broadcast	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Office Closed	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> 9:00 Worship 10:30 Ch. 8 Broadcast	<b>28</b> 2:00 Downtown Estates HC 3:00 pm The Maples Bible Study	<b>29</b> 6:00 pm Bible Study 7:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast	<b>30</b> 10:00 Ch. 8 Broadcast	<b>St. Paul Lutheran Church</b> <b>303 N Cass Ave, Springfield, MN 56087</b> <b>507-723-5880, stpaul_lutheran@hotmail.com</b> <b>pastortriciamattson@gmail.com</b>		

The Church Council has decided to begin adding back in some of our Worship Service Helpers. We are in need of volunteers to learn how to run the video recording system, Acolyte (grades 5-8), prepare communion, and Usher. If you can volunteer for one of these jobs, please talk to Katie in the office!

## 9:00 am Worship Service

Date	Sound & Video	Reader	Acolyte	Usher
6/6	Tim Vogel	Paul Muske	Bryan Buerkle Gabby Schenk	Team 2
6/13	John Mueller	Jo Muske	Noah Mueller Wyatt Mueller	Team 3
6/20	Russell Rogotzke	Jordan Pidde	Nicholas Groebner Nathan Groebner	Team 4
6/27	Tim Vogel	Daniel Kettner	Brayden Trapp Hayden Gluth	Team 1

### June Altar Guild

Jo Schwartz, Megan Hillesheim, Jordyn Plaster

If you are unable to help, please find a substitute or switch months with someone.

### June Birthdays!

- 2 - Kurt Kratz
- 2 - Jordyn Plaster
- 3 - Bobbi Jo Timm
- 4 - Lily Groebner
- 5 - Reagan Plaster
- 6 - Travis Wendt
- 7 - Jamie Zihlke
- 8 - Kyle Quesenberry
- 9 - Kim Graff
- 9 - Christopher Longsdorf
- 10 - Mitchell Buerkle
- 10 - Larry Potter
- 10 - Sawyer Wersal
- 14 - Andrew Rogotzke
- 14 - Alyssa Shaw
- 16 - Jodi Nachreiner
- 18 - Cash Anderson
- 19 - Doug Gatzlaff
- 19 - Taisley Salonek
- 20 - Rylyn Marz
- 21 - June Wendt
- 22 - Adeline Schubbe
- 23 - John Mueller
- 23 - Jamie Marz
- 25 - Elizabeth Vanderwerf
- 25 - Emily Goblirsch
- 25 - Blake Zihlke
- 25 - Claire Thompson
- 26 - Kristin Rogotzke
- 26 - Jan Severson
- 26 - Teagan Steffl
- 27 - Rachelle Halvorson
- 29 - Daniel Kettner
- 30 - Lorelei Pidde

### Usher Teams

- 1 - Delwin Beussman, Don Bloemke, John Marz, Paul Meidl, Mark Rosenau
- 2 - Dave Bittler, Doug Gatzlaff, Kurt Kratz, Mike Marz, Ashley Rogotzke, Jacob Rogotzke
- 3 - Rod Larson, Doug Schiller, Russell Rogotzke, Ethan Langseth
- 4 - Mark Buerkle, Tim Vogel, Scott Vogel, Kurt Glaeseman, Bill Vogel

We have a great need for volunteers for our worship services in the areas of Altar Guild (preparing communion), Ushers, Sound & Video Recorders, and Acolytes!

PLEASE consider volunteering for one of these much needed jobs!

### June Anniversaries!

- 1 - Harmon & Megan Quesenberry - 25 years
- 5 - Maurice & Shirley Weber - 71 years
- 6 - Robert & Marilyn Kratz - 62 years
- 12 - Donald & Darlene Wilstermann - 66 years
- 16 - Layne & Jennie Vanderwerf - 21 years
- 17 - Tim & Megan Hillesheim - 4 years
- 18 - Mike & Crissy Rogotzke - 27 years
- 20 - Paul & Jo Muske - 51 years
- 21 - Justin & Jennifer Asmus - 24 years
- 21 - John & Katie Mueller - 18 years
- 22 - Rod & Rhonda Larson - 30 years
- 23 - Matt & Tasha Sargent - 3 years
- 27 - Carla & Clyde Moret - 34 years



We will be having  
Wednesday Worship  
Services at 6:30 pm on the  
following dates this  
summer:  
Wednesday, June 2, 2021  
Wednesday, July 7, 2021  
Wednesday, August 4, 2021



## Vacation Bible School

**June 6-10 from 5:15-8:15 pm at Riverside Park!**

Final day to register has been extended to June 2nd!

Registration forms can be found in the narthex or online at  
[www.splcspringfield.org](http://www.splcspringfield.org)

Masks will not be required while outdoors. In case of inclement weather, VBS will be moved to St. Paul Lutheran Church.

### VBS God's Wonder Lab Closing Program

Please join us on our last night of VBS as our children sing praises to our Lord! The closing program will be held at 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 10, 2021, at Riverside Park. Following the program, refreshments will be served. In case of rain, the program will be held at the church.



**Help Support St. John's Circle of Care Auxiliary by becoming a member!** Dues are only \$5 a year. Membership dues go to special programs for our residents, tenants, and staff at St. John's Circle of Care.

2020 was an unprecedented time that didn't allow us to fundraise. Please consider the \$5.00 membership. Dues can be given to Jo Schwartz, your Auxiliary Rep. Or dropped off in the church office marked "Auxiliary Dues" with your name on it.

St. John's Auxiliary is having a **Bakeless Bake Sale** and you are invited to donate! What is a Bakeless Bake Sale? You take the money you would have used to make your bake sale item and donate it directly to the Auxiliary! *Proceeds will go to St. John Circle of Care AUXILIARY who help fund projects for our residents and tenants. Thank you for your support!* Send donations to: St. John's Circle of Care, ATTN: Bakeless Bake Sale  
201 South County Road 5, Springfield, MN 56087

### Cleaning Help Needed!

**We currently do not have a housekeeper here at church. Until one is hired, or a cleaning service is contracted, we will need some volunteers to come in weekly to clean church. Duties will include vacuuming, dusting, checking/cleaning bathrooms, sweeping floors, or other duties as needed. Please talk to Katie in the office if you can help out at all.**

### HELP WANTED

Part-time Housekeeper at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Springfield. Approximately 10 hours a week. Must be self-motivated. Duties include general housekeeping throughout the building; vacuuming and washing floors, rugs, and windows, dusting, cleaning kitchen and bathrooms, emptying garbage, occasional tasks: setting up tables, changing banners, seasonal decorating, other tasks as assigned. Occasional weekend work may be required in the event of funerals, weddings or other functions. Applications can be picked up at St. Paul Lutheran Church Monday-Thursday 8 a.m. – noon, or online at [www.splcspringfield.org](http://www.splcspringfield.org).



**American  
Red Cross**

Thank you to Sue Hendrickson & Jena Veenstra for helping at the Red Cross Blood Drive and to Ed for setting up and cleaning the Fellowship Hall before and after the drive! Also thank you to those who came to donate blood!

Any way you help makes a difference!

**St. Paul Lutheran  
Church, LCMC**  
303 N Cass Avenue  
Springfield, MN 56087

Postmaster: Dated material  
Please Deliver Promptly  
Address Service Requested

**Calendar Highlights - June 2021**

2 - Worship on Wednesday 6:30 pm  
6-10 VBS @ Riverside Park  
9 - 8:30 pm Council Meeting-Time Change

**We are on the Web!**  
[www.splcspringfield.org](http://www.splcspringfield.org)

**Phone: 507-723-5880**  
**Fax: 507-723-8712**

**Office Hours**

*Pastor: Tricia Mattson*  
Monday & Thursday 9-noon  
Wednesday 1-4  
Or by appointment  
[pastortriciamattson@gmail.com](mailto:pastortriciamattson@gmail.com)

Parish Coordinator: Katie Mueller  
Monday-Thursday 8:00 am-noon  
Email: [stpaul\\_lutheran@hotmail.com](mailto:stpaul_lutheran@hotmail.com)

Housekeeper:

Maintenance: Ed Meidl

Financial Secretary: Anita Jensen  
[Fin\\_secretary@newulmtel.net](mailto:Fin_secretary@newulmtel.net)

St. Paul EPISTLE is a publication of St. Paul Lutheran Church.  
It is published monthly to keep members and friends informed  
of programs and ministries of the church.

Articles may be submitted for publication subject to content.

**Worship:**

SUNDAY at 9:00 a.m.

\*Watch for updates

Coffee Talk cancelled until further notice



**Springfield Area Food Shelf hours**  
Tuesday 5:00pm – 7:00pm  
Thursday 9:30am – 11:30am  
625 N Jackson Ave - Springfield, MN 56087  
(Springfield Clinic Lower Level)  
507-723-3663 (FOOD)