

November



2018

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Greetings! Recently I attended the *Here We Still Stand* conference which observed the 500th anniversary of Luther's Heidelberg Disputation. Following the explosion when he nailed his 95 Theses, attendees at the 1518 Augustinian Order's Chapter Meeting expected Luther to do some back pedaling and recant his wilder assertions. Instead Luther astounded his hearers again with his disputations that ruthlessly shredded any belief that good works have a place in the scheme of salvation. During tense debate one attendee exclaimed, "If the peasants heard this they would stone you to death!"

According to Luther there are only two types of theology, glory theology and cross theology. "The theology of glory" is a catchall for virtually all theologies and religions. It is an offensive theology because unlike other theologies it attacks what we usually consider the best in our religion and the best we ourselves have to offer, not the worst as we would expect, disallowing us to trust in our own righteousness.

The cross sets itself apart from and over against all other theologies. Luther wrote, "The cross alone is our theology." The preaching of the cross retains the foolishness that destroys the wisdom of the wise and thus even saves them. The word of the cross kills and makes alive. It crucifies the old creature in anticipation of the resurrection of the new.

The biggest division between a theology of glory and a theology of the cross is the question of human will. A theology of glory always leaves the will in control. It seeks to make its theology attractive to the supposed "free will." The theology of glory thus produces songs like *Pass It On*, "It only takes a spark to get a fire going. And soon all those around can warm up in its glowing. That's how it is with God's love once you've experienced it. You spread his love to ev'ryone. You want to pass it on." The theology of glory puts the Christian in the driver's seat rather than Christ.

In contrast, a theology of the cross assumes that the will is bound and must be set free. This assumption shapes the confession we make each Sunday, "We are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves," which is answered by the forgiveness of sins in which Christ sets us free. Freedom comes from death and resurrection: words of law and gospel.

Here is a small taste of Luther's radical Heidelberg Disputations:

- (1) *The law of God, which is the most beneficial doctrine of life, is not able to advance man towards righteousness but rather stands against him.*
- (3) *Even though the works of man always seem to be beautiful and good, they are nevertheless demonstrably deadly sins.*
- (13) *After the fall, free will exists only as a concept, and as long as it acts in accordance with itself, commits a deadly sin.*
- (18) *It is certain that man must give up all hope in his own ability before he is able to receive the grace of Christ.*
- (23) *The law works the wrath of God, lays slaughter, curses, accuses, judges, and condemns everything that is not in Christ.*
- (26) *The law says, "Do this," and it is never done. Grace says, "Believe in this," and all things are already done.*
- (28) *The love of God does not find, but creates that which is lovable. The love of man is made up of those things which it loves.*

Feeling the same pinch as the Augustinian monks when they first heard Luther's theses? If so, they are doing the work intended. Luther wrote, "You must get this thought through your head and not doubt that you are the one who is torturing Christ thus, for your sins have surely wrought this...Therefore when you see the nails piercing Christ's hands, you can be certain that it is your work." Paul puts it this way in Galatians 2:20, "I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself up for me." Just as Jesus was crucified so we also are crucified and will be raised with him on the last day. In this way we are made theologians of the cross who can proclaim, "I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified." See you in church!

In Christian Love,
Pr. Tricia

St. Paul Lutheran Church ~ Church Council Meeting, October 10, 2018, 7:30pm

Present: Jordan Pidde, Russell Rogotzke, Jill Vogel, Ed Meidl, Shawna Jacobs, Dawn Marz, Pastor Tricia, Dan Longsdorf, David Bittler, Matt Sargent, Craig Valentin

Also Present: Katie Mueller, Parish Coordinator & Anita Jensen, Financial Secretary

Absent: Kathy Pederson, Jan Kratz

Call to order, Jordan Pidde

Devotion – Pastor Tricia reading from Ephesians 4

M/S/P-Secretary's Report

Financial Report – Anita

M/S/P-to pay current bills and Jan, Feb, March and April benevolence.

M/S/P-to approve financial report.

Building and Grounds – Ed

Altar/Sacristy Windows/Cold-will be placing Styrofoam between the window panes to help with sealing.

Parsonage Screen Door-completed.

Currently have water in the tunnel with all the rain.

CenterPoint sent information regarding additional gas insurance to cover natural gas pipes within the facility.

No action.

Parish Education Report – Kathy & Matt

M/S/P-Changing to a 10am service on Dec 16th for the Children's Christmas service.

Pastor's Report

Visitation

Visited homebound, assisted care, nursing home, and hospitalized members.

Worship

Led worship at SJLH and the Maples.

Led the rehearsal 9/21, presided at the wedding on 9/22, and then prayed at the reception for Amanda Jensen & Dylan Thompson.

Parish Education

Continuing to lead weekly bible study Mondays at the Maples and Tuesdays at church.

Attended the Parish Ed meeting on 10/1.

Taught a baptism class on 9/29 for the baptism of Sawyer Wersal on 10/14.

Taught a baptism class on 10/7 for the baptism of Harper Borth on 10/28.

Began a new class on Sunday morning from 10:15-10:45 a.m. called *Why I Am a Lutheran*.

Confirmation

Teaching confirmation on Wednesday nights at 6:30 p.m.

Held mentor program meetings on 9/23 and 9/26.

Community

Issued six SAFE vouchers.

Attended a junior high football game in Wabasso on 9/13.

Attended an 8th grade volleyball game on 9/20.

Worked at the German Supper.

Attended the Springfield Tiger's Homecoming football game on 9/28.

Attended the Ministerial Meeting at Tommy's on 10/4.

Continuing Education Update

Meeting with local pastors for text study.

Attended the Augustana District/Luther House of Study Text Study on 9/20.

Continuing my DMIN studies online on Monday nights at 6:00 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS

ALICE Training— Planning for Fall 2018 – Matt: will continue to follow up with Eric to see if possible to do after first service.

2018 LCMC Annual Gathering, Dave B. Report: financials and attendance were down this year. Speakers and presentations were great. Dave also attended the Epiphany district meeting as well. Dave would like to have someone plan to attend both conferences going forward.

German Supper, Served around 441-profit approx. \$4,473.

Church Insurance – Church Mutual-building and grounds will continue to work on this.

Nov. 11 - Thanks for the Harvest 6pm, potluck 6:30

Planning: plates, cups and napkins have been donated. Need people for set up and clean up.

Stewardship Committee: Pastor asking for the committee to meet and look at options for addressing concerns for this year and planning for the future.

Approach Thrivent for Action Team Project

NEW BUSINESS

World Day of Prayer March 1, 2019 – St. Paul's is Host Church. Slovenia, Europe – Katie requesting a committee to organize. Booklet, guest speaker, involved surrounding churches, etc... put information into the bulletin to ask for volunteers.

Thanksgiving Basket:

- Nov 18th following 1st service.
- Need to find someone to get Thrivent Action Team Kit.

Goal to have each council member assist in delivering the packages.

College Care Packages

- Thrivent Action Team Kit

Will use the money for snacks and shipping costs. Luther League will package them up.

Snow Removal Bids

M/S/P-snow removal bid from Nick Seidl/Saw Works Construction.

Schedule Staff Reviews

Jordan is meeting with the personnel committee to review process.

Set Date for Annual Meeting

M/S/P-January 27, 2019 following 9am service.

Gifts and Visits for Shut-ins

Looking to do this earlier than normal due to Kathy and Larry being gone. Be on the look-out for emails.

Christmas Caroling

- Katie has been in contact with St John's and the Maples Lutheran home on Dec 9th at 1:30pm. Luther League will help
- Jordan will help Jeff with the music.

Post gathering TBD

Sunday's and Seasons-additions to the projection system software:

- Annual pricing-based on average attendance- \$395

M/S/P-purchase/subscription to projection system software that includes all hymnals, readings, etc...preloaded.

Post cards for Christmas schedule:

Jill will organize with Katie and present at next meeting.

Bulletins

Katie will not be ordering decorative bulletin covers for Holiday services. Annual cost is approximately \$150 saved.

Budget Committee needs to meet in Nov.

M/S/P adjourn with Lord's prayer at 8:53pm.

Shawna Jacobs

Church Council Secretary

Memorials Given From 09/23/18 to 10/26/18

In Memory: _____ **Given by:** _____ **Designated for:** _____

No Memorials were received

Budget Recap & Attendance Year-To-Date (01/01/18 to 10/26/18)

Given to Budget	\$141,452.54	Operating Income	\$141,452.54
Budget	<u>\$151,648.53</u>	Operating Exp.	<u>\$136,738.08</u>
Difference	(\$10,195.99)	Difference	\$4,714.46

Attendance Worship Services

Sunday, September 30 - 9am - 94	11am - 11	Sunday, October 7 - 9am - 96	11am - 17
Sunday, October 14 - 9am - 101	11am - 19	Sunday, October 21 - 9am - 81	11am - 5
Sunday, October 28 - 9am - 81	11am - 25		

Please pray for... The Family of Louis Springborg, The Family of Clyde Schmidt, Alice Trebesch, Eileen Raddatz; Amanda Havemeier, 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.

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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!

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2018 Church Council

Jordan Pidde - Chair	Kathy Pederson	Jan Kratz	Dave Bittler
Ed Meidl - Vice Chair	Dawn Marz	Russell Rogotzke	Matt Sargent
Shawna Jacobs - Secretary	Jill Vogel	Dan Longsdorf	Craig Valentin - Treasurer

Deadlines: Sunday Bulletin: Wednesday by 10 am. **Epistle:** 20th of each month.
Please call or email Katie at the church office with additions or changes for the bulletins or Epistle.

November 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 Office Closed	3
4 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School Coffee Talk 10:15 Why I Am A Lutheran 10:35 Ch. 8 Broadcast 11:00 Worship	5 3:16 Bible Study @ The Maples 7:30 pm Parish Ed Meeting	6 6:00 Bible Study 7:00 Ch. 8 Broadcast	7 6:00 Luther League 6:00 Bell Choir Rehearsal 6:30 Confirmation 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	8 2:00 SJLH Birthday Party for Residents	9 Office Closed	10
11 9:00 Worship - Choir 10:00 Sunday School Coffee Talk 10:15 Why I Am A Lutheran 10:35 Ch. 8 Broadcast 11:00 Worship	12 1:30 St. John's Auxiliary Annual Meeting 3:16 Bible Study @ The Maples	13 6:00 Bible Study 7:00 Ch. 8 Broadcast	14 6:00 Bell Choir Rehearsal 6:30 Confirmation 7:00 Choir Rehearsal 7:30 Council Meeting	15	16 Office Closed	17
18 9:00 Worship - Bells 10:00 Sunday School Coffee Talk 10:00 Pack Thanksgiving Baskets 10:35 Ch. 8 Broadcast	19 3:16 Bible Study @ The Maples	20 10:00 SJLH Worship 3:30 The Maples HC 6:00 Bible Study 7:00 Ch. 8 Broadcast	21 7:00 Thanksgiving Eve Worship followed by Pie Social	22 Happy Thanksgiving! Office Closed	23 Office Closed	24
25 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School Coffee Talk 10:15 Why I Am A Lutheran 10:35 Ch. 8 Broadcast 11:00 Worship	26 2:00 Downtown Estates HC 3:16 Bible Study @ The Maples	27 6:00 Bible Study 7:00 Ch. 8 Broadcast	28 6:30 Confirmation 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	29	30 Office Closed	

9:00 am Worship Service

Date	Sound & Video	Reader	Acolyte	Greeters	Usher
11/4	Tim Vogel	Kristin Rogotzke	Daniel Groebner Andrew Longsdorf	Jim & Elsie Groebner	Team 4
11/11	Bob Kratz		MaCoy Krick Nickolas Rogotzke	Bill & Mel Vogel	Team 1
11/18	Shane Clemon	Daniel Kettner	Dalton Langseth Keagan Streich	Richard & Lois Zihlke	Team 2
11/21	Tim Vogel	Jo Muske	Jordyn Plaster Parker Gluth	Don & Sherry Bloemke	Team 3
11/25	Bob Kratz	Mel Vogel	Jace Rosenau Abigail Jensen	Dustin & Tiffany Trapp	Team 4

Sharon Rogotzke has been asked to call Greeters, Readers and Acolytes reminding them of their Sunday. **In order to avoid confusion, please call Sharon at 723-5117 if you will be gone and have found a substitute.**

November Altar Guild

Kari Haugo and Marcia Schiller

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

Delivering bulletins in November

1 - Jill Vogel
8 - Pastor Tricia
15 - Larry Pederson
21 - Leona Schottle
29 - Carol Carlson

November Birthdays!

1 - Barry Hoecherl
2 - Michael Graff
Troy Hagert
3 - Beverly Beussman
Tricia Mattson
4 - Barb Marz
Tyson Meidl
5 - Jace Rosenau
7 - Xandar Asmus
9 - Abigail Shaw
10 - Shane Clemon
11 - Kendra Rummel
12 - Krystal Plaster
Alex Quesenberry
13 - Gene Gramentz
16 - Kade Nachreiner
Russell Rogotzke
Craig Valentin

18 - Jan Kettner
Russell Johnson
19 - Mark Rosenau
19 - Tiffany Trapp
20 - Gerritt Meidl
Amber Borth
21 - Dave Bittler
Kelly Sargent
22 - Casandra Graff
Lucas Jensen
23 - Tristan Fabian
Lydia Vogel
26 - Merlyn Peterson
27 - Jerome Kettner
29 - Ken Renner
30 - Skyler Gewerth

November Anniversaries!

1 - Gerard & LeAnn Jensen
3 - Richard & Lois Zihlke
6 - Dermont & Bonnie Wells
10 - Matt & Jenny Solmonson
13 - Mark & Michelle Buerkle
19 - Brian & Malorie Kral



Luther League meets on the first Wednesday of the month at 6:00 in the Fellowship Hall.
All members grades 7-12 are invited to attend!

Why I am a Lutheran

Many ask the question, "Is it still important for us to differentiate ourselves as Lutheran Christians rather than just plain old Christians?" In response to this question, the Luther House of Study (LHOS) has created a whole series of video clips entitled, *Why I Am a Lutheran*, which they have made available for viewing free of charge. Please join Pastor on Sunday mornings to view these videos and then discuss them. If you are unable to attend on Sunday mornings, but you are interested in viewing and discussing these clips, please contact Pr. Tricia.

What: View and discuss *Why I am a Lutheran* video clips

When: Sundays, from approx. 10:15 a.m.-10:45 a.m.

Where: Conference Room 101, unless the attendees are too numerous

The Nativity Pageant is on Friday, December 7 and Saturday, December 8 at 7:00 p.m. on the grounds of the Springfield Area Community Center. **St. Paul's needs volunteers for the following: Three (3) shepherds, 1 Scribe, Townspeople, 1 Slave Rehearsals will be on Sunday, Dec. 2, Monday, Dec. 3 and then dress rehearsal on Thursday, Dec. 7



**The Pageant Choir will be directed by Joyce Schwarzrock. There will be another new piece of music added to the pageant. Rehearsals for the choir will be Sunday, Nov. 25 at 5:00 p.m. and Sunday, December 2 at 6:30 p.m. at the United Methodist Church.

**We need four individuals to help with the set-up and take-down of the set.

Set-up will be on Saturday, Dec. 1 at 9:00 a.m. and take-down will be Sunday, Dec. 9 at 1:00 p.m.

**Any children in 3rd grade and up that would like to be angels should contact Jenny Vanderwerf if interested. She will be setting up the times for rehearsals.

**1-2 people are needed to help dress the cast for the dress rehearsal on Thursday evening and for the performances Friday & Saturday. You will be dressing the cast in the warmth of the community center this year instead of the swimming pool.

**Santa's Cookie Sale & Luncheon (fundraiser for the pageant) will be held on Friday, November 30 at the Community Center. Donations of cookies and goodies would be appreciated. Also, we need 2-3 volunteers to help during the luncheon.



Please contact Jeff Krueger, Ed Meidl or Katie if you can help with any of these things. It will be greatly appreciated. Thank you!

Are you a Thrivent Member? Did you know that each Thrivent Member can apply for an Action Team Project 2 times per year and receive \$250 each time to help fund your project? There are several times throughout the year we can use these funds and the process is very simple! We are looking for members who belong to Thrivent that can offer their Action Team project to help our church. Katie is willing to assist anyone in getting the application filled out and the project approved! Please talk to her if you are a Thrivent Member and see how you can impact our congregation!

The St. John Home Auxiliary Board recommends amending Article II Section 1 of the Constitution to read Membership in the auxiliary shall be open to all who are interested in St. John Lutheran Home and pay the annual donation of a minimum of \$5 (instead of \$3). Linda Anderson seconded the motion. This amendment will be voted on at the Annual Meeting on November 12, 2018 at 1:30 pm in St. John's Chapel.

St. John's Auxiliary will be holding their annual meeting on Monday, November 12, 2018 at 1:30 p.m. in the St. John's Chapel. All are invited to attend the meeting.

St. Paul's will be hosting the November 8th Birthday Party at St. John's Home for the residents at 2:00 p.m. Anyone interested in helping serve cake and ice cream, and celebrating with the residents is invited to attend. Mary Glaeseman will be providing the entertainment for the celebration.

We are hosting the World Day of Prayer 2019 here at St. Paul's. The World Day of Prayer is Friday, March 1st. This year it is featuring Slovenia, Europe. If you would be interested in being part of the planning committee, please talk to Katie in the Church office.

We are starting preparations for the Thanksgiving Baskets. If you know of a family who is in need or could use the gift of receiving a full Thanksgiving meal, please call the church office at 507-723-5880 or fill out a form at the entrance to the Sanctuary and return to the church office. We need to know their address, phone number, how many people are in the family. We will be packing and delivering the baskets on **Sunday, November 18th at 10 am.** **Everyone is encouraged to help if you are able!**



Thanks for the Harvest Sunday, November 11th

6:00 p.m. Worship, 6:30 p.m. Potluck Meal

The end of harvest is a joyful time in all cultures, and for thousands of years people have come together to celebrate and thank God for the bounty of earth.

But God's gifts are not only those of the natural world; He provides us with what we need to nourish our spirits as well as bodies. The Lord's love and wisdom are the spiritual food which will sustain us to eternity.

We will be having a special "Thanks Offering" during the service. Your donation, no matter how big or small will be appreciated. Offerings collected from Thanks for the Harvest will go to pay off the Memorial Loan debt we have accrued this year.

Please bring a dish to pass for the potluck meal. Plates, forks, napkins, cups, and beverages will be provided.



Please sign up to bring a pie or dessert for the Pie Social following the Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service! The sign up sheet is in the Fellowship Hall.

Time to order your Christmas Poinsettias - We have ordered 10 poinsettias from Springfield Floral. The Cost is \$16 each. If you would like one in your name, please notify the church office by November 30th. Checks should be made out to St. Paul Lutheran Church.



Anyone interested in learning how to run the projection system should talk to Katie in the church office. When there are several people interested, a training will be scheduled. The goal is to have a rotation of members who will take turns running the projector on Sunday mornings.



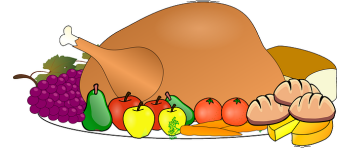
We will be putting up the Mitten Tree again this year and finding a place to send our donation locally! Start preparing your donations of hats, mittens, gloves and scarves. Watch for the tree in the Narthex!

Springfield United Methodist Church's 31st Annual Turkey Dinner
 Wednesday, November 7th from 4:30-7 p.m.
 Turkey & Dressing, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Cranberries, Cole Slaw, Corn,
 Rolls, Dessert, Beverage

Adults \$11 Children 10 and under \$5 Preschool \$2

Tickets available at Thrifty White Drug, Ed's Repair, and Jim's Market.

Delivered meals to shut-ins only. Take-out meals at front door only. Deliveries & Take-out orders close at 6:30. Call 723-6698



Please join us on Sunday, November 11th at New Hope Lutheran Church in Comfrey for an afternoon of praise and thanksgiving! St. Paul Lutheran Choir will be singing several musical pieces, along with Jeff Krueger and Mary Glaeseman doing a duet, and Jordan Pidge singing. There will be several other area church's musical groups performing. The event begins at 2:00 an will be followed by a pie and ice cream social.



Dear St. Paul Lutheran Church & Scholarship Committee,
 Thank you so much for the scholarship. I greatly appreciate it. It will help me pay for tuition at MSU, Mankato. Sincerely, Alex Quesenberry

Dear St. Paul Lutheran Church,
 I appreciate the scholarship money. It will go towards my schooling in Sioux Falls at South East Tech. I am studying Construction Management and this will help me pay for tuition. Again, I am thankful for receiving this scholarship. Sincerely, Tanner Weisensel

Dear St. Paul Lutheran Church and Scholarship Committee,
 Thank you for the scholarship I received from St. Paul Lutheran Church. It will help with my expenses as I attend Rochester Community and Technical College. It is very much appreciated. Sincerely, LaCole Weisensel

God Bless
Sawyer John Wersal
Who was Baptized on
October 14th.
Sawyer is the son of
Britany Wersal.



God Bless
Harper Marie Borth
Who was Baptized on
October 28th.
Harper is the daughter
of Keaton & Amber Borth.

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

Postmaster: Dated material
Please Deliver Promptly
Address Service Requested

Calendar Highlights - November 2018

8 - SJLH Birthday Party
11 - Music Festival @ New Hope-Comfrey
11 - Thanks for the Harvest
18 - Pack Thanksgiving Baskets
21 - Thanksgiving Eve Worship

We are on the Web!
www.splcspringfield.org

Phone: 507-723-5880

Fax: 507-723-8712

Office Hours

Pastor: Tricia Mattson

Monday 9-noon

Wednesday 1-4

Thursday 10-11; 1-3

Or by appointment

pastortriciamattson@gmail.com

Parish Coordinator: Katie Mueller

Monday-Thursday 8:00 am-noon

Email: stpaul_lutheran@hotmail.com

Housekeeper: Lisa Prechel

Maintenance: Ed Meidl

Financial Secretary: Anita Jensen

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

Worship at 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Sunday School at 10:00 a.m.

Coffee Talk at 10:00 a.m.

Springfield Area Food Shelf hours
Tuesday 5:00pm – 7:00pm
Thursday 9:30am – 11:30am
804 East Rock Street - Springfield, MN 56087
507-723-4120