



St. Paul's
Evangelical Lutheran Church



The Disciple's Connection

November 2020

Worship Services

Saturday 6:00pm

Sunday 9:30am

Sunday Bible Study

Adult 8:30am & 10:45am

Children 10:45am

Staff

Paul D. Sundbom, Pastor

Marlyss Sekki, Director of Music

Peggy McDonnell, Admin Assistant

Church Office

250 Bowhall Road

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St. Paul's Preschool

Amy Marizek, Director

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Thank God for ... Everything



Scripture tells us, "You are not your own, for you were bought with a price" By the shedding of His Son's blood, His death for our sins, and His resurrection for our justification, God the Father has received us back into His family. By water – combined with His Word, promise, and Name – the Holy Spirit has taken up residence in us. We belong to the true, Triune God. He is in us, and we are in Him. And, being in Him, all things are ours. In Him, we are richly and abundantly blessed.

Our true treasure is that we belong to God, and everything that is His – righteousness, peace, eternal life – also belongs also to us. Even our temporary, earthly treasures are gifts from His fatherly divine goodness and mercy.

We receive these blessings from Him, and as good stewards of what He has given us, we manage them in such a way that they may be returned to Him. We return to God from what He has given us as a sacrifice.

All our possessions, as gifts from God, are also sacrifices to Him. We eat to take care of our bodies. We share with our family, neighbors, fellow disciples, the poor, and even our enemies as holy things given by the holy God. His earthly gifts are blessings to us and for us, and they bring blessings upon us even as they are used in His service for His kingdom.

We place all that we have into God's hands, and He never fails to remember us. He pours out the fullness of His promises upon us. We give thanks for all that He has done, all He is doing, and all He will continue to do. We give thanks by not taking for ourselves, but, giving to all even as our heavenly Father has given to us.

As we prepare for the celebrations of Thanksgiving, may we all give thanks continually for all that we are and all that we have because of God's care. And may we be all the more diligent in bringing everything that we have received from God to Him, so that He may bless it and use it for the good of all – even for us. For to the one who has, more will be given, and he will have an abundance.

In Christ

Pastor Sundbom

¹⁶ Be joyful always; ¹⁷ pray continually; ¹⁸ give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18



The wonderful impossibility of giving thanks

by Tom Eggebrecht

“What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me? I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of salvation, and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people, in the courts of the Lord’s house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.”

(LSB DS1 and DS2, drawn from Ps. 116)

It was Thanksgiving Day, and my wife and I had no family in town. We were in the midst of a very busy time and didn’t plan ahead for a traditional meal. In search of Thanksgiving lunch, we headed out to look for an open restaurant. The only nearby place we could find with its lights on, though, was Steak ‘n Shake.

“Why not?” we thought, and sat down for a burger and fries.

I felt such immense gratitude (and a little guilt, too) toward the waitress who gave up her own Thanksgiving to take care of us that I left her a very generous tip when the meal was over. It was a small token of my deep thanks to her.

“What shall I render to the Lord for all his benefits to me?”

We sing these words from Psalm 116 in church when we return thanks to God with our gifts and tithes. The psalm calls it “a sacrifice of thanksgiving,” but what does this mean? It’s impossible to thank God for all his benefits. Nonetheless, as Martin Luther indicates in his explanation of the First Article of the Apostles’ Creed, we offer up thanksgiving, praise, service and obedience. These things are but a tiny token of thanks for the benefits the Lord sacrificed his Son to give to us. Here are three benefits that Psalm 116 mentions:



THE WONDERFUL IMPOSSIBILITY OF GIVING THANKS *continued*

1. **His cup.** In the Garden Jesus said: “My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will” (Matthew 26:39). It was the Father’s will that Jesus drink of the cup of death. He spilled out His blood on the cross. By way of the Sacrament of the Altar his blood is given into your mouth to drink for the forgiveness of your sins. A cup of salvation, indeed! (See Psalm 116.) It’s wonderfully impossible to give thanks to the Lord for this eternal benefit. But we thank, praise, serve and obey Jesus because his salvation flows over the brim into our empty cup.
2. **His name.** Psalm 116 urges us to “call on the name of the Lord.” That isn’t difficult to do when His name has been stamped on your forehead in Holy Baptism: “I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” Wherever His name is, there He is. Now wherever you go, whatever you do, not only is His name upon you, but He is with you. Call upon His name, and He is right there to answer your prayer and to listen to your complaint. He is nearer than near to give you comfort and deliver peace. It’s wonderfully impossible to give thanks to the Lord for this temporal benefit. But we thank, praise, serve and obey Jesus because He has given us his holy name.
3. **His people.** When we come to the Lord’s house we are “in the presence of all his people...” (Psalm 116:18). There is no such thing as solo Christianity. God always puts us together with His people. In the Old Testament, He took for Himself a people when he called Israel out of Egypt and led them into the Promised Land. Jesus called together a group of twelve individuals to learn together, lean on one another and change the world with the Word of God — and then He sent them out to bring more people into the story. The benefits of being in the presence of God’s people today includes “mutual conversation and consolation.” God’s people speak the truth in love, lend helping hands, encourage each other in the faith and pray for any and every need that arises. It’s wonderfully impossible to give thanks to the Lord for this incarnational benefit. But we thank, praise, serve and obey Jesus because he has gifted us with his people.

“What shall I render to the Lord for all his benefits to me?”

It’s wonderfully impossible to thank the Lord fully and completely for all his benefits. But by God’s grace, we thank, praise, serve and obey him. What a wonderful way to celebrate Thanksgiving every day.

Tom Eggebrecht is Senior Pastor of Ascension Lutheran Church in Casselberry, Florida, where he enjoys preaching the salvation of Jesus, proclaiming His name and serving His people. Follow Tom’s personal blog at www.tomeggebrecht.com.



Life Quotes for November

November 1 "Adoption can be an enormously unselfish gift to a baby, not only as a way to give a child a secure, loving, stable family but to give that child the most precious gift of all—life." *Dr. Jean Garton, former president of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

November 8 "Maybe you enjoy showing hospitality to others, whether at home or as part of a joint effort at church. Perhaps you invite people who are lonely or people who are hungry or homeless or far away from home. Perhaps you are reaching out to refugees or to international students. Perhaps you take a casserole to a family with a new baby or buy toothpaste and toilet paper for the local homeless shelter. If so, you are showing hospitality to Jesus. What an honor to be able to do so!" *Dr. Kari Vo, Lutheran Hour Ministries – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

November 15 "To be sure, our God Father does not give the vocation of a large family to everyone. (And, of course, any quantity of family and offspring He bestows is a great benefit.) But we need not despise proliferation the way the world does. Indeed, we may appreciate and assist our brothers and sisters who engage in this holy (and delightful!) calling. And we may also raise our young ones to cherish procreation and adoption more than any personal preferences or material possessions. The blessings of children always outweigh even the burdens!" *Rev. Michael W. Salemink, Executive Director of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

November 22 "This Thanksgiving, let's remember exactly what God has bought for us with the blood of His Son—not just anything, but everything that matters: Pardon from sin and release from guilt. Peace with God and a home in heaven. We come empty-handed to this banquet of blessings. No marshmallow-topped side dish of good works can earn us a place at this buffet. We have nothing to offer God in exchange, yet '[t]he LORD has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy' (Psalm 126:3)." *Sarah Habban, Time of Grace – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

November 29 "Christians engage in adopting not only because we desire to raise children but also—and above all—because the Most High desires their survival and salvation. We adopt because we have been so adopted. We adopt because little ones need homes. We adopt because we have homes and families to share. Life issues mean more than just political debates. Life issues involve more than just personal choices or someone else's problems. Life issues are always people and Gospel." *Rev. Michael W. Salemink, Executive Director of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*



Announcements



Don't forget to set your clocks back Saturday night and change the batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors

LWML Noisy Mite Weekend Update

"God's Kingdom People" celebrated LWML weekend on October 17/18. To God's glory, \$616.01 was given by congregation members in our noisy mites gathering. The first \$500 was matched by an anonymous donor – so a total of \$1116.01 was sent to the LWML Ohio District to further mission work in our district and around the world. (75% stays within our district and 25% is sent to national LWML). We praise God for the person giving the matching funds as well as the "Kingdom People" who provided \$503 in quiet money and \$113.01 in noisy coins (242 quarters, 358 dimes, 180 nickels and 771 pennies).



2021 LWML Convention



The Finish Line...for the 2021 LWML Convention in Lexington, Kentucky, is getting nearer, but not yet in sight. Members of the Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio Districts and the LWML 2021 Host Convention Committee are "Running the Race...Looking to Jesus" toward June 24–27, 2021. The convention theme is from Hebrews 12:1-2, *...let us run with endurance the race set before*

us, looking to Jesus... Let each of us witness the joy we have knowing that Jesus endured the cross for us. With this joy, we will be nourished with worship, Bible study, and inspiring speakers. Pray for the Host Convention Committee and all workers who have signed up to assist with the 2021 Convention. Share your excitement and be an encourager to those in your society, zone, and district to attend the convention. Check the Call for Workers form at the LWML Indiana District website, www.lwmlindiana.org, to see where your time and talents can be used. Order a 2021 Convention Logo Polo Shirt. A form is also available at www.lwmlindiana.org. Give thanks to God for His blessings and remember His goodness. Pray that God continues His guidance for the LWML 2021 Host Convention Committee. With thanksgiving and praise for God's gifts we look to Jesus.

Contribution Statements

Third quarter contribution statements (July through September) have been placed in your mailboxes. If you have not received a statement and believe you should, please contact Dennis Concoby.



Congregational Meeting

SEMI-ANNUAL CONGREGATION MEETING

The semi-annual Congregation meeting will be held Sunday, November 15, 2020. It will be held after the 9:30 worship service. As a result of the meeting, there will be no 10:45am Adult Bible Study or Sunday School that Sunday.

Order Your Poinsettias Now!!!

Poinsettias will again be used to decorate the altar for Christmas. As in the past you will be able take them home after Christmas. The cost for each is \$5.25. The colors available this year are: red, white, pink, marble (pink & white), and jingle bells (red & white). The order sheet has been posted on the doors at the back of the church. Please place your check in the offering plate, marked "Poinsettias". The last day to order is Sunday, November 29th.



Thanksgiving & Christmas Cards have arrived!!!



Thanksgiving and Christmas card sets are now available for sale. Each package is individually priced and is located on the wood table next to the new church directories. Don't forget to support the other greeting cards in the rack. There are Birth-

day, Anniversary, Get Well, Sympathy, Blank Inside and many others to purchasing for friends or family members who are having a special event. Each individual card is only 50 cents a piece. All proceeds will go toward building an Outreach budget for future Outreach event expenses. Please place your payment in an offering envelope supplied on the greeting card rack and add it in the Offering plate during church service.





Outreach neighborhood walk-a-thon ... Get your tennis shoes ready!!



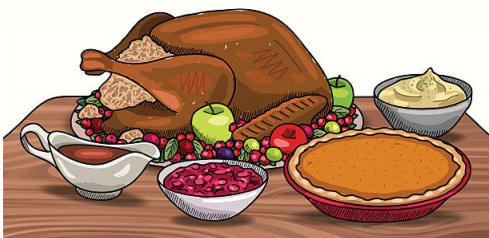
A volunteer sign-up sheet has been posted on the doors at the back of the sanctuary. Please sign up to help the Outreach Committee walk the neighborhood and hand out church service invitations. We will meet at the church parking lot at 9 a.m. on Saturday, November 7th. We have plenty of invitations, so if you can't make the walk-a-thon and/or would like to hand them out in your own neighborhood, please contact Kristi McConnell to get a supply. (*Rain date is November 14th*).

Jail Ministry Update

Please consider donating funds for the purchase of Jail Ministry Bibles. Envelopes have been placed on the table in the back of the sanctuary. We will be running this campaign through the end of the year. Please help us reach our goal of donating 200 Bibles to the inmates at the county jail.



30th Annual Thanksgiving Dinner



Mentor United Methodist Church, 8600 Mentor Avenue, Mentor, Ohio, will be hosting their 30th annual Thanksgiving dinner Thursday, November 26, 2020 from 11:00am to 2:00pm. Meals will be served as drive thru only. Meal delivery is available to Lake County shut-ins. Please call 440-255-3496 between 9:00am and 3:00pm to place your meal reservation. For after-

hours orders please email info@mentorumc.org. The deadline for meal reservations is Monday, November 23, 2020.



October Meeting Notes

1. Pastor's Report: Pastor reported both Adult Bible classes have been well attended, and Thursday virtual study would continue, and confirmation class had 5 students. When questioned about his visitations, he admitted he had fallen behind.
2. President's Report: Communications committee consists of Aaron Lindrose, Matt Chaffe, Kathy Pennell, and Jack Lelle, and will meet soon.
3. Treasurer's Report: Finances still in good financial shape with fair donations and slightly lower than expected expenses so far.
4. Education Report: Average Sunday school attendance: 5 in K-7, 6 in 8-12, 8 in 8:30 Adult, and 11 in 10:45 Adult classes; 5 in confirmation.
5. Preschool Report: Preschool is up and running so far smoothly, temperatures taken daily and drop off and pick up routines going well. A cooler is being used to chill juice until new fridge arrives. A Popcorn fundraiser to begin in late October.
6. Elder's Report: Elders have reviewed Pastor's visitations and recommended more is needed to be done, and are also making calls.
7. Stewardship Report: Only 15 Time & Talent surveys have been returned and would continue to be collected thru the end of Oct; digital copy on website and newsletter. Will compile results on spreadsheet. Matt contacted Zion about Food Pantry needs; they are good for now, but he encourages food donations heading into holiday season.
8. Outreach Report: Funds to be raised for Lake County Jail Ministry to purchase 200 (average inmate population) bibles for distribution. Donations of \$3.99 for each bible is sought and committee will label each bible as a gift from St. Paul's. Door tags were ordered and received and committee will meet to determine date(s) of the neighborhood walk(s) and the best method to follow.



CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES *continued*

9. Buildings & Grounds: Refrigerator has been ordered (cost \$1320) and the cost is covered by an anonymous donor. COVID has delayed deliveries of major appliances and hoped delivery by mid-October. Minor repairs in ladies' and men's restrooms, and mouse/chipmunk damage to AC wiring serving office and classroom 5/6 were done.
10. Membership Secretary Report: WE have had contributions of \$127,507 YTD, which is down only \$825 or 0.6% from last year. Software has been update.

Old Business:

Committee to review Disaster response guidelines haven't met yet.

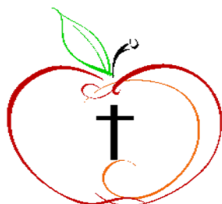
New Business:

1. Preschool Proposal: Amy Marizek asked to have Peggy McDonnell serve as assistant 2 days a week and the Preschool would reimburse church for her time. During discussion, Pastor felt Peggy could complete her duties in the 3 other days. It was also mentioned Preschool's budget only covers salaries. Russ mentioned the Endowment Fund may be able to help Preschool this year. Jenn made motion to keep Peggy's salary paid fully by the church. Dennis 2nd. Motion passed.

Next Meeting: October 7, 2020 @ 6:30pm.

1. Semi-annual Meeting: Sunday, November 15 after the service. It was recommended that Sunday school and the 10:45 Adult Bible class be cancelled.
2. Eric and Aaron reported that the telephone pole and our wooden cross out front were struck and snapped by a car, and that they are in contact with their insurance company, Progressive Ins., to settle claim.

Next meeting: Nov. 4, 2020 @ 6:30pm.



From the Preschool



Popcorn Fund Raiser

St. Paul's Preschool would like to thank all of you for your support of our popcorn fundraiser. Your continued support has helped this ministry continue to grow. Anyone that order popcorn will be notified of the delivery date with a flier in their church mailbox. We hope you enjoy this fun snack!

DESK CHAIR NEEDED

The preschool is in need of a wheeled desk chair. If you or someone you know has one that they would like to donate please contact the preschool office. Amy has a truck and can pick it up if transportation to the school is a problem.



Part time Assistant Teacher Needed

St. Paul's Preschool is currently looking for an assistant teacher to work Mondays and Wednesdays from 8:30 to 12:00. There are 12 students in the class that are 4 and 5 years old. For further information please contact the Preschool Director, Amy Marizek at 440-354-3000.



November Birthdays

Matt Davis	1st	Harold Dennison	17th	Ethan Debelak	27th
Samantha Krueger	3rd	Nicholas Kerver	20th	Jennifer Drake	27th
Meridan Vosicky	8th	Kay Lucas	20th	Gregg Swank	27th
Cooper Vosicky	12th	Doris Wienhold	21st	Mathew Javins	28th
Michele Ponsart	16th	Margie Dennison	25th		



November Anniversaries

Bob and Josie Kattler	65 years on November 7th
Frank and Anna McVan	39 years on November 14th
Joe and Leigh Wojkowski III	30 years on November 24th



Altar Flowers



Is there a special someone, date, or event you would like to celebrate, honor or remember. A great way to do that is with Altar Flowers. The Altar Flower Chart is posted on the wall next to the double doors leading out of the sanctuary. All you have to do is sign up next to the appropriate weekend. Be sure to print clearly what occasion is being honored and who the flowers are given by. Altar flowers are \$30.00. This can be placed in an envelope labeled "Altar Flowers" and the date of the weekend, then place in the collection plate.



Those Who Serve: November 2020

ELDERS:

6:00 P	Saturday	Aaron Lindrose
9:30 A	Sunday	Jeff Troutman & Eric West

LECTORS:

11-07-20	6:00	Saturday	Pastor Sundbom
11-08-20	9:30	Sunday	Sandy Heckler
11-14-20	6:00	Saturday	Frank McVan
11-15-20	9:30	Sunday	Terry Wakelee
11-21-20	6:00	Saturday	Pastor Sundbom
11-22-20	9:30	Sunday	Ken Chafee
11-28-20	6:00	Saturday	Frank McVan
11-29-20	9:30	Sunday	Craig McConnell

COUNTERS:

Ken Chaffe, Russ Tuttle, Karen Tuttle

GREETERS:

6:00 P	Saturday
9:30 A	Sunday

SIGN UP IN NOVEMBER TO WAVE
YOUR GREETING TO YOUR FELLOW
DISCIPLES.

Sign-up sheet located on the double
doors at the back of the Sanctuary



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 All Saints Day Daylight Savings Time Ends (Fall Back)	2 Preschool Chapel	3  Election Day Preschool Chapel Choir Practice 7:00pm	4 Council Meeting 6:30pm	5 Virtual Bible Study 7:00pm	6	7 
8 	9	10 Choir Practice 7:00pm	11  Elder's Meeting 6:30pm Women's Bible Study 6:30pm	12 Virtual Bible Study 7:00pm	13	14
15 Semi-Annual Voters' Meeting Confirmation Class 4:30pm Youth Group 6:00pm	16	17 Choir Practice 7:00pm	18 Communication Committee 6:30pm	19 Virtual Bible Study 7:00pm	20	21 
22 	23	24 Choir Practice 7:00pm	25 Thanksgiving Eve Worship 7 pm	26  Church Office Closed	27 Church Office Closed Black Friday	28 Church Decoration for Advent/Christmas 10:00am
29 Confirmation Class 4:30pm	30 Cyber Monday	October Stone: Topaz October Flower: Chrysanthemum	<div>  COMMUNION SERVICE </div> <div> SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE Saturdays - 6:00pm Sundays - 9:30am No Sunday School or Bible Study </div>			<div> Bulletin Announcements Due Wednesdays </div>