



The Disciple's Connection

St. Paul's Lutheran Church — Painesville, OH 44077

Our Mission Statement: To witness to our faith in Jesus Christ through worship, education, building relationships and caring for others.

From Our Pastor.....

Two teenage boys asked their father if they could watch a movie at the theater. Dad read some reviews of the movie they wanted to see and said they could not go. "Aw Dad, why not?" they complained. "It's rated PG-13, and we're both older than thirteen!" Dad replied, "Because that movie contains some immoral and unacceptable behavior." "But dad, those are very small parts of the movie. It's a story of good beating evil and there are other good things in it like courage and self-sacrifice." "My answer is 'no,' and that is my final answer. End of discussion."

The boys dejectedly walked away and slumped on the couch. As they commiserated, they heard their father making something in the kitchen. Soon they smelled the wonderful aroma of fresh baked brownies. They thought, "Dad must be feeling bad, that's why he's making us brownies. Maybe we can soften him up with lots of praise and then he'll let us go to the movie."

The teens were not disappointed. Soon their father appeared with a plate of warm brownies which he offered to his kids. They each took one. Then, their father said, "Before you eat, I want to tell you something: I love you both so much."

The boys smiled at each other with knowing glances. Dad was softening. "That is why I've made these brownies with the very best ingredients. I've made them from scratch. Most of the ingredients are even organic. The best organic flour. The best free-range eggs. The best organic sugar. Premium vanilla and chocolate." The brownies looked mouth watering, and the teens began to become a little impatient with their dad's long speech. "But I want to be perfectly honest with you. There is one ingredient I added that is not usually found in brownies. I got that ingredient from our own back yard. But you needn't worry, because I only added the tiniest bit of that ingredient to your brownies. The amount of the portion is practically insignificant. So go ahead, take a bite and let me know what you think."

"Dad, would you mind telling us what that mystery ingredient is before we eat?"

"Why? The portion I added was so small. Just a teaspoonful. You won't even taste it."

"Come on, Dad! Just tell us what that ingredient is."

"Don't worry! It's organic, just like the other ingredients."

"Dad!"

"Well, OK, if you insist. That secret ingredient is organic...dog poop."

Both teens instantly dropped their brownies back on the plate and began inspecting their fingers with horror. "DAD! Why did you do that? You've tortured us by making us smell those brownies cooking for the last half hour, and now you tell us that you added dog poop! We can't eat these brownies!"

"Why not? The amount of dog poop is very small compared to the rest of the ingredients. It won't hurt you. It's been cooked right along with the other ingredients. You won't even taste it. It has the same consistency as the brownies. Go ahead and eat!"

"No, Dad...NEVER!"

"And that is the same reason I won't allow you to go watch that movie. You won't tolerate a little dog poop in your brownies, so why should you tolerate a little immorality in your movies? We pray that God will not lead us unto temptation, so how can we in good conscience entertain ourselves with something that will imprint a sinful image in our minds that will lead us into temptation long after we first see it?"

Interesting lesson this father taught his boys, and in a way that drove the point home. God our heavenly Father hates sin. He has us His grace and forgiven our sin. How can we stand even a little sin in our lives? Yet sin often fills our lives, and even a little bit has consequences in our lives. Even though we sin daily, daily God pours out his grace on us. He loves us with an everlasting love. We have died to sin and have new life in Christ. Let us live that new life every day.

In Christ, Pastor Sundbom

¹What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? ²By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it?

Romans 6:1-2



WORSHIP SERVICES

Saturday 6:00pm

Sunday 8:15am & 10:45am

Education Hour 9:30-10:30am

Pastor

Paul D. Sundbom

PastorSundbom1@sbcglobal.net

Church Administrative

Assistant: Kathy Doeing

CHURCH OFFICE

(440) 354-3000

CHURCH WEB-SITE

www.SPLCPainesville.org

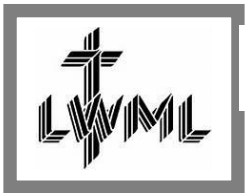
PRESCHOOL

Amy Marizek, Director

Preschool44077@sbcglobal.net

website

www.stpaulspainesville.com



FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE

Did you know that the LWML supports mission work throughout the world? The national LWML has a mission goal of \$2,075,000.00 for the biennium ending March 31, 2019. Please, prayerfully continue to feed your mite boxes, enabling both the LWML and the LWML Ohio District (which has a mission goal of \$192,000.00) to continue to spread the Gospel message both near and far.

You can learn more about the work of the LWML at <http://lwml.org> and the LWML Ohio District at <https://lwmlohio.org>

WINTER BOWL 2019

Sunday, February 17th, 3-5pm at
Rich Lanes, Fairport.

The cost is \$5/person which includes bowling, food and beverages. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board next to the church kitchen. Sign up quick! One name per slot. There are only 40 slots open to bowl. Please pay when you arrive at the event.

Questions? Please contact Dale Kerver.



Lutherans For Life

February 3 "God has given each of us a limited time to be on this earth, a purpose for that time, and people to share that time with. Don't wait for a near-death experience to teach you the lesson of appreciating to the fullest what God has given you. Life is too short." *Diane E. Schroeder, former president of Lutherans For Life*

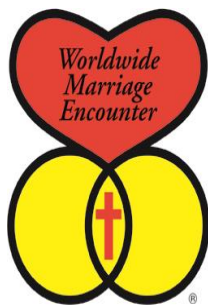
February 10 "[T]here's more ... more to life than sensual pleasures, more to love than the shriveled-up version that has captivated our Western imaginations. So today, ask yourself, 'How am I responding to so great an expression of love as what God has shown us?' Valentinus's response was to give up his own life. For us, too, a kind of 'death' is required—a death to self, a death to the desires that our culture treats as ultimate. Now of course, guys, none of this lets you off the hook with your wives. So don't forget the flowers." *John Stonestreet with Roberto Rivera, www.breakpoint.org*

February 17 "Life is a gift not to be discarded. It can indeed make us weary when we do our work to proclaim life as valuable, and the world continues to abort babies and write prescriptions for people to commit suicide and minimize the value of life in so many ways. Yet, it is encouraging to know we have the gift of prayer to use to strengthen us, knowing the God of life is always in front of us guiding our way, always behind us holding us up, and always beside us keeping us focused and on the right course." *Virginia Flo, Lutherans For Life regional director of Minnesota*

February 24 "And what about those mothers who acted on their fears and aborted their child? We need to be there for them as well, assuring them of a loving, merciful, forgiving God—reminding them that there is no sin that Jesus did not pay for on the cross!" *Duane Matz, former lay pastor with the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations*

*God Is Dedicated to Your Congregation's
Marriages*

You Can Help Married Husbands & Wives Enhance Their Communication!



Married husbands and wives can celebrate their special relationship and learn unique insights and tools to improve their communication for the long haul with Marriage Encounter! It's a whole weekend away from chores, jobs, and kids to reap joyful long-term rewards for their relationship, their family, and their faith journey.

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March 22 - 24, 2019

Comfort Suites, Hartville, OH

Apply now at GodLovesMarriage.org!

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Questions? Contact Duffy & Nan Guthrie
NGuthrie@suite224.net • 440-599-9090

Pre-registration and payment are required by March 6 – don't miss out!



Prayer Sister Alert!!

Between Sat., February 2nd & Sun., February 10th say 'farewell' to your current prayer sister by **revealing yourself to her.**

AND

sign up for a new prayer sister for the 2019-2020 year. Info. will be on the Friendship Circle table in the Narthex beginning in Feb. (or see Marlyss Sekki). Deadline to sign up for a new prayer sister is Sunday, Feb. 17th. You will be notified of your "New" prayer sister within a few weeks. **All women of St. Paul's are welcomed and encouraged to join us in the Prayer Sister Ministry.**

PRESCHOOL NEWS

The Preschool will begin registration for the 2019/20 school year on Feb. 25th.

Registration forms will be available in the Preschool and church office beginning Feb. 1st.

FOOD PANTRY

This month we will again be collecting "warm you up foods"—soup, crackers, macaroni and cheese, hot cereals, hot chocolate, tea, coffee, etc... Place items in the bins located at both entrance doors of the church. (As most of you know, St. Paul's supports the food pantry at Zion, Painesville). They will then be taken by St. Paul volunteers to Zion and distributed to those in need *in our area.*



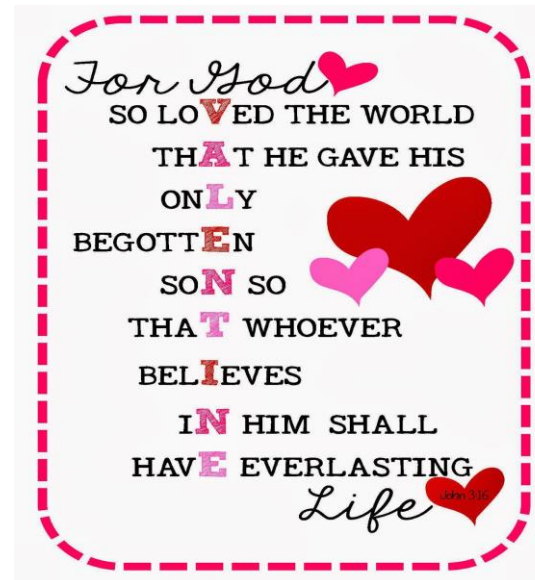
SAVE THE DATE

St. Paul's VBS will be June 10-14, 2019. Volunteers are needed for every position. Anyone interested in volunteering may contact Kathleen Pennell or Kristi McConnell. More information will be out soon! Prayerfully consider how you can help our mission to reach the children in and around our community.

Those Who Serve: February 2019

ELDERS:

6:00 P Saturday Roy Greig
8:15 A Sunday Dale Kerver
10:45 A Sunday Eric West



LECTORS:

02-02-19 6:00	Saturday	Roy Greig
02-03-19 8:15	Sunday	Craig McConnell
02-03-19 10:45	Sunday	Eric West
02-09-19 6:00	Saturday	Pastor Sundbom
02-10-19 8:15	Sunday	Dale Kerver
02-10-19 10:45	Sunday	Terry Wakelee
02-16-19 6:00	Saturday	Dave Murphy
02-17-19 8:15	Sunday	Jack Lelle
02-17-19 10:45	Sunday	Ken Chaffe
02-23-19 6:00	Saturday	Frank McVan
02-24-19 8:15	Sunday	Craig McConnell
02-24-19 10:45	Sunday	Kathleen Pennell

COUNTERS: Ken Chaffe, Jennifer Drake

GREETERS:

6:00 P Saturday
8:15 A Sunday
10:45 A Sunday