

May 2020

THE MESSENGER



ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH
816 9TH STREET
CLAY CENTER KS 67432

"A Place of Grace
and a
Source of Hope!"
... for 131 years!!

True Shelter

May Events:

- VBS, May 28—31, 9:00 AM-11:30 AM

Sunday Morning services
on Facebook Live: St.
Paul Lutheran Church;
9:00 AM or KCLY at 9:30.

ESV Psalm 27:5 For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high upon a rock.

We've been hearing a lot about shelter these days. Depending on the terminology of your local and state officials we've been hearing about "Stay at home orders" or "Shelter in place orders." These orders have almost become a new normal for many of us by now.

We pray and trust that by staying home and social distancing we can decrease the number of cases of COVID-19 in our areas, in our country and around the world. I know it is difficult for many of us to be limited in our normal daily activities. Yet for the sake of combatting the Coronavirus we are accepting the change. As we adapt we are also keeping the 4th and 5th Commandments. We keep the 4th Commandment by obeying the authorities that God has placed over us. They are doing their best to keep us, and the country, safe. As we obey the authorities over us, and as we voluntarily go above and beyond even their orders, we are keeping the 5th Commandment. Even though it is not convent for us to be limiting our activity, we are doing so in response to the 5th Commandment and Jesus' command, *ESV Matthew 22:39b* ... You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

It may be even closer to home. It isn't *just* about our neighbor. As a good steward of all that God has given us, including our health and bodies, we need to do all that we can to avoid becoming seriously ill ourselves. We socially distance to keep our neighbors, and ourselves, safe. We continue to shelter to keep our family, friends, community and ourselves safe.

This is not the first time that shelter was a necessity. We all remember the Passover, when the people of Israel were told to say in their homes as the angel of death visited the homes of the Egyptians. They sheltered in their homes overnight, marked by blood stains around the door posts. They were kept safe. Other times in the Old Testament the people of God were told to shelter until the wrath of God had passed over the land. God did keep His people safe. We trust Him to do the same for us.

As we go through this time, it is hard to figure out God's plan and purpose for this current pandemic. But we can be sure He invites us to find shelter in Him. He is with us always! He is the true shelter we need at all times, not just through a pandemic, but for all of our days, and for eternity.

God continues to shelter us. He has forgiven our sin through the

Inside this Issue

Official Acts	3
St. Paul News	3-6
May Celebrations	3
Stewardship	4
May Calendar	7

death and resurrection of His Son, Jesus. Our sins are forgiven and we are His children. He walks with us daily, providing for and protecting us. Nothing will happen to us that He doesn't already know. He is the shelter that King David needed, and He is the shelter that we need as well.

These days are challenging as our normal routines have been interrupted. That interruption causes discomfort and unease. "Never waste a good crisis" is a phrase used by some politicians and others seeking to bring about a change. While not commenting on the source of the phrase, maybe we can adapt it for our life during these days of pandemic. Normal routines are disrupted, but we now have the opportunity to begin new routines. Many of us have schedules that are less busy. We can use some of our newly freed time to study the Word of God and learn more about our shelter found in Him. Just three chapters a day will get you through the whole Bible in a year. The Synod (lcms.org) has begun a memory challenge. What a great time to memorize and meditate on the Word of God. Many are telling me of an increased prayer life. Take the bulletin and pray for the names listed on the back. Pray for your neighbors, church and community. Take time to pray for our medical personnel. Others are writing a note of encouragement to medical personnel and first responders. There is still much that we can do during these days of sheltering. Remember, "never waste a good crisis!"

Also, a reminder that you are encouraged to join us for worship Sundays at 9:00 am. We are on the St. Paul Lutheran, Clay Center Facebook page live, and the service is posted to the church website, www.claycenterlutheran.com. I hope to see you there. Also, ministry continues at St. Paul. If you or your family would like to receive the Lord's Supper, please call the office and we will make arrangements for that to happen. If you have a prayer need, please let us know. If you have a question or concern please call the church office. While the hospital is not open to general visits, if there is a dire need, have them call Pastor so I can visit and bring the healing Words of the Gospel. God be with you, and bless you, during this time of sheltering.

Sheltering, with you, in Christ,
Pastor Paul Tessaro



St. Paul honors the
2020 High School Seniors
During the Month of May
This year's Seniors are:

AnnaLeah Johnson
Hannah Patenaude
Jaret Pfizenmaier
William Rosenow
Ethan Straub



May Birthdays & Anniversaries

May Birthdays

1 - Joyce Laflin	17 - John Bosch
Kora Beth Schmale	18 - Sara Bulk
2 - Colleen Behrends	Dee Noffsinger
Kayla Pedigo	19 - Kelsey Logan
4 - Helen Urban	21 - Bill Easterberg
5 - Sarah Dunn Maimer	Tristen Milligan
6 - Brandee Berndt	22 - Owen Davis
Randy Siebold	23 - Darlene Obenland
7 - Dee Dee Anderson	Archer Pfizenmaier
Justice Holte	24 - Peyton Lane
8 - Thad Laflin	Mark Thurlow
Vicki Pfizenmaier	Ryan West
11 - Shawna Pederson	26 - Mary Lou Wright
12 - Dustin Liby	28 - John Fajen
Karlie Willmann	Jim Hartman
14 - Xavier Taylor	29 - Heather Ohlde
15 - Michael McNee	30 - Sophie Fajen
Carol Sutter	31 - Stan Ohlde
16 - Emerson Kemp	Elsie Willmann
Sherri Willmann	
Mallory Zwegardt	

May Wedding Anniversaries

1 - Mike & Mary Brown, 1966
4 - Jim & Beverly Rieger, 1969
7 - Randy & Teresa Burger, 1983
6 - Andrew & Alissa Cummins, 2017
8 - Derek & Maria Pfizenmaier, 2004
17 - Joshua & Tiffany Holte, 2014
21 - Bill & Malinda Easterberg, 1983
William & Sandy Fox, 1983
22 - John & Tanya Crofoot, 1999
Levi & Joey Neville, 2004
24 - John & Carol Bosch, 1980
25 - Ethan & Jordan Schuette, 2019
30 - Drew & Nicole Johnson, 2015

OFFICIAL ACTS [Since last newsletter]

Funeral:
Charles Novak, 03/30/2020

Eighth grade confirmation

Postponed to a later date. Possibly June or July.

Scripture Readings for May

Date	Festival	First Reading	Psalm	Epistle	Gospel
May 3	Fourth Sunday of Easter	Acts 2:42-47	Psalm 23	1 Peter 2:19-25	John 10:1-10
May 10	Fifth Sunday of Easter	Acts 6:1-9; 7:2a, 51-60	Psalm 146	1 Peter 2:2-10	John 14:1-14
May 17	Sixth Sunday of Easter	Acts 17:16-31	Psalm 66:8-20	1 Peter 3:13-22	John 14:15-21
May 24	Seventh Sunday of Easter	Acts 1:12-26	Psalm 68:1-10	1 Peter 4:12-19; 5:6-11	John 17:1-11
May 31	The Day of Pentecost	Num. 11:24-30	Psalm 25:1-15	Acts 2:1-21	John 7:37-39

Glorifying God through Giving

Scripture Reading:

"He who sacrifices thank offerings honors Me, and he prepares the way so that I may show him the salvation of God" (Psalm 50:23).

Our chief purpose in life is to glorify God. We glorify God by how we live our lives and by giving Him our thank offerings or gifts. Gifts given in faith and thankfulness honor and please God. In fact, through God's Word, we learn, *"Without faith it is impossible to please God"* (Hebrews 11:6). It is through faith that we as believers give our gifts of gratitude, and it is by grace that God gives His gracious gifts to us.

In Psalm 50:9-12 we read, *"I have no need of a bull from your stall or of goats from your pens, for every animal of the forest is Mine and the cattle on a thousand hills. I know every bird in the mountains, and the creatures of the field are mine. If I were hungry I would not tell you, for the world is Mine, and all that is in it."* The world and everything in it belongs to God so He has no need of our gifts. However, He has chosen to use us as His channels to others. We are God's hands, feet, and mouth. Through us, He feeds the hungry, gives water to the thirsty, clothes to the naked, shelter to the homeless, and care for the handicapped.

God invites us to join in the work of missions, not because He needs us but because He wants to give us the privilege of working with Him. If we choose to ignore God's invitation, we are the poorer for it. Either with or without us, God's kingdom will move forward.

When we give our offerings to God through our churches, we need to remember that the only gifts that are pleasing to Him are those gifts that are given out of faith and love.

Prayer: Dear Heavenly Father, thank You for calling me to be Your steward. Use me as Your instrument to reach out to others. Help me to hold onto the material things You've given me loosely so I can give generously. In Christ's name I pray. Amen.

Radio Broadcast Sponsors for May

THANK YOU

May 3: Mike & Mary Brown in celebration of their anniversary

May 10: Rita Siebold in Thanksgiving for family

May 17: Mary & Lynn Greenlee

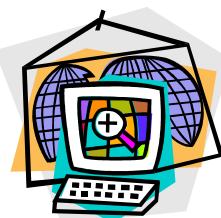
May 24: John & Carol Bosch in celebration of their 40th wedding anniversary

May 31: Steve & Donna Jordan

(There are 2 openings in June)

St. Paul Radio Broadcast is on every Sunday morning on KCLY Radio, 100.9 FM at 9:30 AM. Join us on Facebook live at 9:00 AM Sunday mornings on the **St. Paul Lutheran, Clay Center** facebook page.

Did you know St. Paul's sermons are on the internet?—If you miss Church, you can "tune in" at www.claycenterlutheran.com. Click on radio ministry and the sermon for that week should be there. Invite your friends and family, both far and near, to listen.



May 31—The Day of Pentecost

What is “Pentecost”? The word “Pentecost” (pronounced PEN-tuh-kost) comes from the Greek word pentekostos which means “fiftieth.” Exactly 50 days after Jesus rose from the dead, the Holy Spirit came upon the disciples in the form of flames of fire.

Why is Pentecost so important? When Jesus died, the disciples were sad because they thought that their friend and Lord was gone forever. But Jesus rose again! Forty days after His resurrection, Jesus did finally ascend into heaven leaving the disciples below. However, before Jesus actually died, rose again and ascended into heaven, He made a promise to His disciples that He would send the Holy Spirit to them. He said that the Holy Spirit would come and guide them “into all the truth” (John 16:13). Jesus doesn’t leave us alone to fend for ourselves. Jesus is here



Parents: At home, read the story of Pentecost in Acts 2 to your children. Remind them that the Holy Spirit comes to us through the Word and Sacraments just as our Lord has promised. Encourage them to thank God for the gift of His Holy Spirit in their lives.

The Volunteer Table for VBS is Set-up.

Please sign up to help. “Many hands make light work.”

VBS is May 26—29, 9:00 to 11:30 AM.

Please Pray for Our VBS!

Questions: call Kelly Holte, 632-7514



Check the Church Facebook page for updates.

Resources:

Concordia Publishing House has added Confirmation resources to: church families learn while at home, during this unique time. Get them for free at <https://myc.ph/2WMsoul>.

Also:

CPH Faith Courses at [CPHFAITH COURSES.COM](http://CPHFAITHCOURSES.COM)

LCMS.org has good resources for families.

Lutheran Hour Ministries. Visit lhm.org/covid-19 for resources to use at home.



Go in Jesus' Name

"However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven." Luke 10:20 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Luke 10:1-10, 16-20



A V H B P E N A C S R D D C N
R E J E C T S E P I E L Z R X
U D Y A K I N G D O M N S Q E
W U U P L E N T I F U L D M V
R I W G U L S T B R L V A R H
I I J C J E I V A Y Z N G S E
T Y K O V X E S T K V F R P A
T M Q R Y C V I T O F E N E V
E Z A X I Y R S E E K A U W E
N H U O E O M M F R N A K H N
U D J N H C I D O I W S C K Z
H E C T Q H R W I Y E S W O Y
R P U P N A A T G M R L T Y R
J A B A U R I F P U G D D Z N
P P O I V M C N F F B N R O A

HEAVEN
WRITTEN
REJOICE

HARVEST
PLENTIFUL
WORKERS

JOY
FIELD
SEND

LISTENS
HARM
KINGDOM


REJECTS
AUTHORITY
NAME

May 2020

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN

"Existing in God's Love and forgiveness, St. Paul proclaims the gospel of Christ, helps people grow in faith, and nurtures lives of worship and service"

816 9th Street,
Clay Center, Kansas 67432
785-632-5301 spluther@sbcglobal.net
www.claycenterlutheran.com

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Worship Service with Holy Communion, 6:30 PM
3 Worship Service 9:00 AM Watch for announcements on Facebook page: St. Paul Lutheran Church	4 Or the Church Website: www.claycenterlutheran.com	5	6	7	8	9 Worship Service, 6:30 PM
10 Worship Service, 9:00 AM Christian Education, 10:15-11:00 Mother's Day	11	12	13	14	15	16 Worship Service with Holy Communion, 6:30 PM
17 Holy Communion, 9:00 AM Christian Education, 10:30-11:15 Deaf Ministry in Topeka, 3:00	18	19	20 JUNE NEWS-LETTER DEAD-LINE	21	22	23 Worship Service, 6:30 PM
24 Worship Service, 9:00 AM Christian Education, 10:30-11:15 Apollo Towers, 5:30 PM 31 Holy Communion, 9:00 AM Christian Education, 10:30-11:15 Pentecost	25 OFFICE CLOSED	26 Friendship Circle, 7:00 PM	27	28	29	30
		VBS Week, 9:00-11:30 AM Miraculous Mission				

**ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH
816 9TH STREET
CLAY CENTER KS 67432**

May Newsletter

Well, this is definitely not the end of the preschool year that we planned for. The Preschool staff is missing the final days spent with our little ones. Anticipating the end of the school year, seeing the growth that our students have made since the beginning of the year, and having closure for the students that will be moving on to kindergarten. It is a different experience for all of us, but we are trying hard to make the most of an unusual situation.

The students in the 3-Day class were given a binder filled with activities that we were missing out on sharing in class. The students had activities for the final alphabet letters and numbers, as well as enrichment activities. The 2-Day students were given a packet and get a weekly email with suggested activities. We are also keeping in touch through a classroom Facebook page for the 3-Day class. We share messages and pictures that show what we are doing with our academics and during down time with our families. It's a great way for our students and families to stay connected!

St. Paul's enrollment for the 2020-2021 school year is still underway. We have 7 three and four year olds enrolled in the 2-Day classes and 19 Pre-Kindergarteners enrolled for the 3-Day classes. Help us keep enrollments coming!!! Please spread the word!

We hope and pray that everyone is staying happy and healthy during this time and we look forward to a new beginning in the Fall!

Praying and Playing,

Becky, Rita, Shanna, and Susan

**PRESCHOOL
NEWS**

