



The Spirit of St. Paul's

www.stpaulslutheran.ca

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, SASKATOON, SASKATCHEWAN

Congratulations graduates



Gracie Harper graduated from grade 12 at Centennial Collegiate and has been accepted into Nursing at Saskatchewan Polytechnic in Saskatoon.



Kwame Asiamah graduated from the College of Arts and Sciences with great distinction in physiology and pharmacology. He will be continuing his education in the fall at the College of Medicine, University of Saskatchewan.

Welcome to St. Paul's

At the Board of Lay Ministry meeting on June 2, Carla James was accepted as a new member of St. Paul's. Welcome to our church family Carla!

Indoor picnic – again!

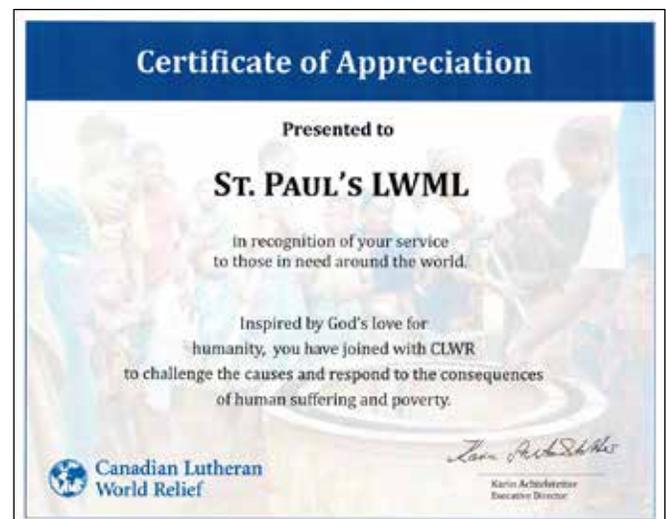
In recent years the annual congregational picnic and new members' Sunday seems to attract rain more often than not. Regardless, thanks to Mark Zlipko's barbecuing skills the hamburgers and hot dogs were great and thanks to the Board of Parish Fellowship and those who brought salads or desserts, the meal and fellowship indoors were just fine.

Thank you from CLWR



Earlier this year St. Paul's LWML invited the congregation to give a gift of love to the world for Valentines Day by packing We Care bags full of goodies. And you responded with great generosity.

Recently a thank you letter and certificate of appreciation were received. Because the bags were sent by our society, the certificate says it is presented to St. Paul's LWML but in truth, it belongs to the whole congregation. THANK YOU!



Reminders

- Please remember that, because we have a number of members with allergies to nuts, any foods brought to church events should be nut-free.
- Also, several have allergies to fragrances. Please consider them when choosing toiletries and whether or not to wear perfumes.
- LWMLC mites and offerings are collected the first Sunday of each month.

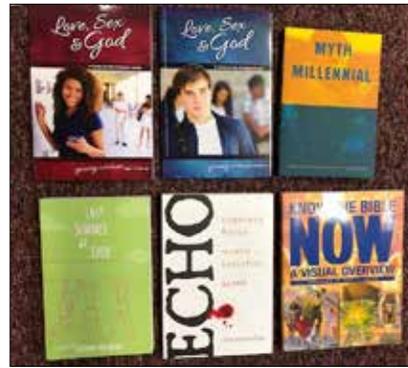
Caring Ministry Coordinator
for July - Verla Schmirler
for August - Natalie Keith



Pastor: Rev. Murray Keith
Office Secretary: Sandy Harper
phone: 306-343-9535
e-mail: stpaulslcc@sasktel.net
web: www.stpaulslutheran.ca
Facebook: www.facebook.com/stpaulslutheran
Instagram: www.instagram.com/stpaulslcc
Spirit Editor: Marion Hollinger
hollinger@sasktel.net

Next deadline: Aug. 25, 2019
Publication: Sept. 1, 2019

Library News



If you are looking for something different to read over the summer, consider stopping in at the library to check out some new selections that were ordered on by the Board of Education. There is sure to be something for every age, every reading style!

Holy Cross and St. Paul's share some close ties

Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Saskatoon, will soon close its doors as a Lutheran church. You are invited to attend their closing service on July 7, 2019, at 4:00 p.m. A supper will follow worship. All are welcome to attend the meal but please let them know in advance so sufficient food may be provided (holycrosslutheran.sktn@gmail.com or 306-382-0544). The congregation also asks for your prayers.

Holy Cross is a daughter congregation of St. Paul's. The following note can be found in the history book written for St. Paul's 100th anniversary.

"Just as the building program [at St. Paul's] was being completed the District Missions Committee decided to establish a new mission congregation on the west side of Saskatoon. Construction began in the spring of 1963 and the District asked Pastor Guebert to be the supervisor, while they hired Louis McGinnis, the same builder and crew that had completed St. Paul's. The congregation sold their construction shack to the mission, loaned them an old reed organ and 35 sets of folding chairs which

had been part of the temporary furnishings at St. Paul's, and donated two used offering plates. When Holy Cross Lutheran Church was organized, sixteen member families of St. Paul's who lived on the west side, transferred to form the nucleus of the new congregation."

Members of Holy Cross will disburse to other congregations. We extend a warm welcome to those who choose to call St. Paul's their church home.

Thanks from the local LLL

The local Lutheran Laymen's League wishes to thank those who attended their Steak Night fund raiser on May 4. Attendance was down from past years but the revenue from many worthwhile door prizes and donations helped keep the financial income up. All who attended were pleased with the meal served by Smiley's and the music and humour provided by Wes Froese.

Next year is already booked so mark May 2, 2020, on your calendars. See you there. Come and bring your friends!



A new piece of furniture has arrived

You may have noticed a new desk in the narthex. It was commissioned using funds received in memory of Kathy Hollinger and will be home to a book listing items purchased using monetary gifts given in memory of individuals as well as other gifts to the church, often given on special occasions. Voters agreed some time ago to recognize such gifts in a book instead of putting plaques on the items. Unfortunately, the book was put safely in the office instead of being on display. This desk will change that.

The book of remembrances currently on the desk was updated for the 90th anniversary of the congregation in 1997. It is full so once sufficient research has been completed, a second book will be added listing items since that date. Also to be placed on the new desk will be a book detailing the story behind the stained-glass windows which is currently being prepared. The desk was made wide enough to allow room for the books to be left open for easy access.

Stewardship

Whenever the topic of stewardship and giving comes up, the conversation inevitably turns to the question: “How much should I give?” Answers will vary because the motives behind such questions also vary.

Sometimes the motive behind asking this question is for self-justification. Even though, as Lutherans, we know we are not saved by our works but by grace through faith because of Jesus’ substitutionary atonement, the natural religion of fallen man is to earn God’s favour by what we do.

Take, for example, the response of our Lord to the rich young ruler who asked, “What must I do to inherit eternal life?” Jesus first tells him to keep the commandments. The rich young ruler responds by indicating that all this he has kept from his youth. But Jesus tells him that he lacks one thing: He must sell all he has and give it to the poor and then follow Him.

This rich young ruler went away sad because he was quite

wealthy and could not part with his possessions. Here we see that those who seek to justify themselves by their giving will hear a response that intensifies the duty that God places upon them. Indeed, they will hear a response that makes it impossible to win God’s favour by their works.

But to those who genuinely desire to know their duty as Christians in the arena of giving, we look to the Bible for our answer. We believe the Bible is the Word of God. And we know that the Word of God has been “breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work” (2 Tim. 3:16–17).

So, we begin to answer the question, “What should I give?” with the question, “What does the Bible say about how much we should give and to whom?”

The Old Testament is explicit. The expectation is that the people of God would give a tithe – 10 percent – of the first fruits of their labour to

support the full-time ministry of the Levites. This is what the Lord gave Moses to teach the people:

“You shall tithe all the yield of your seed that comes from the field year by year. And before the Lord your God, in the place that he will choose, to make his name dwell there, you shall eat the tithe of your grain, of your wine, and of your oil, and the firstborn of your herd and flock, that you may learn to fear the Lord your God always.

“And if the way is too long for you, so that you are not able to carry the tithe, when the Lord your God blesses you, because the place is too far from you, which the Lord your God chooses, to set His name there, then you shall turn it into money and bind up the money in your hand and go to the place that the Lord your God chooses and spend the money for whatever you desire – oxen or sheep or wine or strong drink, whatever your appetite craves.

“And you shall eat there before the Lord your God and rejoice, you
continued next page

Stewardship, continued

and your household. And you shall not neglect the Levite who is within your towns, for he has no portion or inheritance with you.

“At the end of every three years you shall bring out all the tithe of your produce in the same year and lay it up within your towns. And the Levite, because he has no portion or inheritance with you, and the sojourner, the fatherless, and the widow, who are within your towns, shall come and eat and be filled, that the Lord your God may bless you in all the work of your hands that you do” (Deut. 14:22–29).

This principle of tithing is carried over into the New Testament, though not explicitly by calling it a tithe. St. Paul teaches the Church at Corinth the following:

We are to give to the church regularly (1 Cor. 16:1–2), proportionally (1 Cor. 16:1–2; 2

Cor. 8:12), and generously (2 Cor. 8:20) of our first fruits (1 Cor. 16:1–2; Gen. 4:4; Prov. 3:9; Lev. 27:30) with a spirit of eagerness (2 Cor. 9:2), earnestness (2 Cor. 8:7), cheerfulness (2 Cor. 9:7), and love (2 Cor. 8:23). And all of this is because the “Lord has ordained that those who preach the Gospel should make their living by the Gospel” (1 Cor. 9:14), just as the Levites did.

This is our New Testament standard. Since Christ became poor for us in order to make us rich in Him – blessing us with the riches of heaven – so we have also been so blessed to follow the example of our Lord and Saviour and give of ourselves and the work of our hands to bless others with the same.

If we have been lax in this, let us, like our Lord, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross and scorned its shame, likewise begin to work toward this goal of regular

giving of a generous proportion of the first fruits of God’s giving to us.

And let us do so not begrudgingly, but for the joy set before us – with a spirit of eagerness, cheerfulness, and love – to share the blessings of God with those placed into our care.

ST. PAUL’S MEMBERS SHARE GOD’S BLESSINGS

At the last Board of Stewardship meeting we received the treasurer’s report demonstrating just how our members are sharing God’s blessings with others, with a spirit of eagerness, cheerfulness and love. We heard that to the end of May this year, the congregation’s finances are showing an excess of revenue over disbursements of \$1,361. This compares to a surplus of \$2,070 for the same period last year. Also good news is that our envelope and pre-authorized remittances (PAR) offerings are ahead of last year by \$5,898. Total revenue is up by \$4,835 this year compared to 2018 most notably due to the envelope and PAR giving. Total expenditures are up by \$5,500 compared to last year due to general increases year over year. Frequently we see a drop in giving going into the summer months but that was not the case this year. By the end of March, envelope and PAR offerings were virtually the same as last year. In April offerings were up about \$2,000 over the same month last year and in May, offerings were up \$3,585 over May 2018. This is exciting news and we give God thanks for the generous giving we are seeing. God does richly provide for all our needs and we respond with true joy. Thanks be to God!

Board of Stewardship

Pastor’s Corner**Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy**

What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not despise preaching and His Word but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it.

In Divine Service God gives precious gifts to you, His beloved. His powerful and living Word builds and strengthens your faith and Christian life. He gives you a banquet of bread and wine with His body and blood for the forgiveness of your sins and promises you eternal life. Together we receive these gifts and respond with praise and thanksgiving and we love and support each other. For these reasons we should be regular in worship to receive anew the

benefits of Christ’s life, death, and resurrection.

“Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful. And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near” (Hebrews 10:23–25).

Hold God’s Word sacred, gladly hear it, and learn it. In this Word God delivers to you the blessings of eternal life.

*Have a great summer!
God’s blessings,
Pastor Keith*

Evangelism

The Book of Psalms

“Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.” (Psalm 119:105)

“The book of Psalms or Psalter has supplied to believers some of their best-loved Bible passages. It is a collection of 150 poems expressing a wide variety of emotions including: love and adoration to God, sorrow over sin, dependence on God in desperate circumstances, the battle of fear and trust, walking with God even when the way seems dark, thankfulness for God’s care, devotion to the word of God, and confidence in the eventual triumph of God’s purposes for the world.”(ESV Study Bible)

Martin Luther: Where do you find words more beautifully expressive of joy than in the psalm of praise and thanksgiving? On the other hand, where do you find deeper more sorrowful, more pitiful words of sadness than in the psalms of lamentation? This is why the Psalter is the book of all saints and everyone, whatever his situation may be, finds psalms and words in it that apply to his case so exactly that it seems they were put in this way only for his sake.

In a word, would you see the holy Christian Church painted in living colour and form and put into one little picture? Then pick up the Psalter, and you have a fine bright mirror that will show you what Christendom is like.”

Psalmody

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

O my God, in you I trust; let me not be put to shame; let not my enemies exult over me.

Indeed, none who wait for you shall be put to shame; they shall be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

Make me know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths.

Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long.

Remember your mercy, O Lord; and your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.

Good and upright is the Lord; therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way.

All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his testimonies. (Psalm 25:1-10)

God's help and promises in times of need

“In my distress I called upon the Lord: to my God I cried for help. From His temple He heard my voice and my cry to Him reached His ears” (Psalm 18:6).

“I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth” (Psalm 121:1).

“...and call upon Me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me” (Psalm 50:15).

*May you find peace, hope and comfort in His Word,
The Board of Evangelism*

Classifieds



This Kitchen Aid range was purchased from Midtown Appliance World for \$1850 in July 2016 so barely three years old. My parents bought new house and appliances were included, but they prefer gas. Stove, oven and grates very clean; comes with operations manual, installation guide, ceramic glass

cooktop cleaner. Extended warranty transferable and good for another two years. Asking \$650.

Karin Melberg Schwier, [email: karin.schwier@mac.com](mailto:karin.schwier@mac.com)
Ph: (306) 653-3244

Something to sell or give away? Need something? Services to offer to fellow members? Try The Spirit Classifieds first. No cost. Leave your ads at the church office or give them to the editor.

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY CHAPLAINS

The following story and the photo of our military chaplains (below right) has been borrowed from Lutheran Church–Canada’s InfoDigest. Two of the chaplains are well-known to many at St. Paul’s: Capt. Rev. Victor Morris, son of members Doreen and Gary Morris and Lt. Rev. David Jackson who served his vicarage year at St. Paul’s. You are encouraged to add these servants of Christ to your prayer list, including Capt. Rev. Sean Smallwood who was unable to attend this event and is, therefore, missing from the picture.

CORNWALL, ONTARIO – Chaplains in the Canadian Armed Forces gathered together the week of June 2 for “Called to Serve” in Cornwall, Ontario. This exercise is an opportunity for chaplains to gather together for mutual support, to hear from their leaders in the chaplaincy, and to gain some knowledge from specialists that may prove useful in their service as military chaplains.

For two days during that time ten members of the Lutheran Caucus of chaplains—which includes LCC, ELCIC, and LCMS members—were joined by Lutheran Church–Canada (LCC) President Timothy Teuscher. President Teuscher presented a paper and led a discussion on the Catechism and Pastoral Care. This provided an opportunity for the chaplains to discuss their ministry and how they care for souls. It was a safe place for them to tell their personal stories and share their experiences.

President Teuscher also met for discussions with LCC chaplains to listen to concerns or issues that they might be having, and to discuss LCC’s proposed new Military Deanery. The deanery would include a Dean of Military Chaplains who, as representative of the Synod President, will provide oversight and support of all the military chaplains on the roster of Lutheran Church–Canada.

LCC chaplains present were: Capt. Rev. Gerson Flor (Naples, Italy); Capt. Rev. David Gallas (Petawawa, Ontario); Capt. Rev. David Godkin (Esquimalt, B.C.) who is moving to Winnipeg this summer; Lt. Rev. David Jackson (Edmonton, Alberta); Capt. Rev. Min Kim (Edmonton) who will be moving to a new field of service next year as professor at CLTS in St. Catharines; Capt. Rev. Victor Morris (Wainwright, Alberta) who is moving to Ottawa this summer. Capt. Rev. Sean Smallwood (Shilo, Manitoba) was unable to attend.

Please remember those in prayer who minister to the armed forces: “O Lord, almighty God, as You have always granted special gifts of the Holy Spirit to Your Church on earth, grant Your continual blessing to all who minister in Your name in the armed forces, that by Your gracious working they may honour Christ and advance the good of those committed to their care; through Jesus Christ, our Lord” (LSB p. 306).

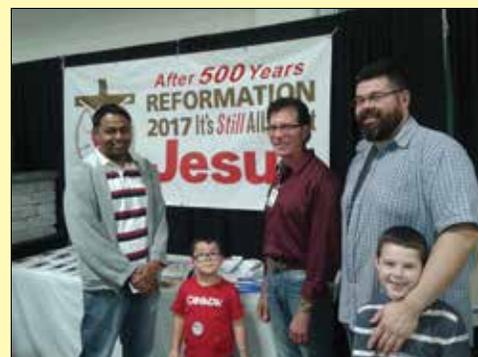


President Timothy Teuscher joins LCC chaplains during their 2019 retreat in Cornwall, Ontario. Pictures (l-r): Capt. Rev. Min Kim, Capt. Rev. David Gallas, Capt. Rev. Victor Morris, President Teuscher, Capt. Rev. Gerson Flor, Lt. Rev. David Jackson, and Capt. Rev. David Godkin.

LET US PRAY

...for the evangelism course outreach at Concordia Lutheran Theological Seminary, St. Catharines, Ont. A mission grant of \$5,000 from Lutheran Women’s Missionary League–Canada will send eight students and an instructor on an educational field experience.

Lord God, may this educational field experience in evangelism outreach—assisting a local host congregation—contribute to a sense of unity in the Church in our common goal of bringing Christ to all nations, at home and abroad. In Jesus’ name. Amen.



PRAY FOR A FUIURE PASTOR



CONCORDIA
LUTHERAN
SEMINARY

7040 Ada Blvd NW
Edmonton AB T5B 4E3
www.concordiasem.ab.ca



Joshua Kurtenbach
Fourth Year Student

Thank you for your prayers and financial support of Concordia Lutheran Seminary in its mission to *form servants for Jesus' sake.*

Prayer Bear project



LWMLC women from Thunder Bay brought a pattern and some prayer bears to the LWMLC convention in June. Knitters pray as they knit for whoever might be the recipient of the Prayer Bear they are making. The bears have been given to many agencies within their community, not only for children who are experiencing an unsettling situation but for adults on cancer wards or who have dementia, etc. Gail Mitchell and Marion Hollinger have copies of the pattern if you would like to knit some Prayer Bears.

A chiming good time

From time to time you may have seen our young people creating music with items that look a bit like tuning forks of various sizes. But they sound like hand bells. How we came to have them is an interesting story.

It all began with the dream of a member of our congregation who has since gone to be with her Lord, Donna Phillips. Donna loved music. She sang with the Sweet Adelines, a women's group of barbershop singers. Donna also worked at what was then Kelsey Institute of Applied Arts and Sciences. Somewhere she gained access to a set of tone chimes and borrowed them.

Wondering how to introduce them to St. Paul's, she teamed up with Nancy Guebert, choir director at the time, and enlisted the assistance of the choir. They gathered the choir together at Donna's home and set to work figuring out how to play them.

Like hand bells the chimes can create a long, sustained sound, a very short, quick sound and anything in between depending

upon how you handle the time. Each tone chime is a particular note and each player needs music marked so they know when they are to "chime" in. The choir had lots of fun but also found it was a challenge to play their note at just the right time.

A synodical convention of Central District was to be held in Saskatoon. Nancy and Donna decided the choir should play at the opening service. Whether it was a success will be left to those who were present to say.

Tone chimes are much less expensive than hand bells but achieve the same result. After our adventure with Donna's borrowed set, Merle Timm and her sister, Fay

Galloway, put their heads together and, knowing how much their mother, Doris Blunt, one of the very early members of St. Paul's, had enjoyed music, they decided to purchase a set in her memory.

Since then the tone chimes have been used whenever someone has been able to prepare the music and work with a group wanting to try them out. Most recently Megan Bracewell has been involving the youth and Sunday school children in their use for special occasions, especially at Christmas.

So, here's another dream. What if we formed a tone chime choir? Maybe you're the person to do the organizing. Or maybe you're the person to be the director. Maybe you're one of those who would be in the choir. As members of the choir who initiated tone chimes will tell you...they are fun for people of any age, not just the young. And, as Jeanette Wiesinger said in the last issue of The Spirit, you're never to old (or too young) to learn something new.



Five members attend LWMLC district convention



While Lutheran Church–Canada has moved to regions, Lutheran Women’s Missionary League–Canada has retained a district structure. LWMLC Central District met in convention in Yorkton, Sask., at the beginning of June under the theme “Sing to the Lord of the Harvest.”

Convention-goers were very generous. There were three offerings, a walk for missions and an ingathering for district camps. An offering for mission grants received \$2,496. One for the PAT (Pastors with Alternate Training) Program received \$2,179 and one for the deaconess training program at Concordia Seminary, Edmonton received \$1,969. The \$7,695 raised by the mission walk will be divided among the three district camps: Lutherland, Aurora and Jackfish Lake.

Also gathered for the camps were cash, gift cards, Canadian Tire money and cards of encouragement.



Five members from St. Paul’s were among the 121 who attended. Verla Schmirler was involved as a member of the district’s Member Development committee and Marion Hollinger served as society delegate.

As part of the business of convention, the mission grant goal to be met over the coming three years was set at \$50,000. Projects to receive grants range from Bibles for distribution in Regina to support for deaconesses in Cambodia to help with technology upgrades at the seminary in Edmonton.

During a servant event prior to the opening of convention participants wrote cards of encouragement to be given to campers at the three district camps.



Marion accepted a certificate from national president, Linda Long, recognizing the 65th anniversary of St. Paul’s society which was celebrated in 2018.



A quiet place during the convention was the prayer room where many paused to pray for convention happenings and for individuals near and dear to them.