



The Spirit of St. Paul's

www.stpaulslutheran.ca

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, SASKATOON, SASKATCHEWAN

Sunday School starts this autumn – make sure you don't 'fall' behind!

Sunday school will be returning to St. Paul's beginning October 13. Classes will run Sundays at 11:15am in the church basement. Whether you are a returning student or new to Sunday school, all children ages 4 to 11 (or even mature 3-year-olds!) are invited to join us for fun and fellowship while learning from God's Word!

Parents are welcome (and encouraged!) to attend Sunday school with their children. Classes include reading an Arch book (an illustrated series of popular Bible stories), an activity or craft and learning parts of the catechism.

Teachers Marissa Neuberger and Denise Timm would also be happy to welcome anyone willing to assist

with teaching Sunday school. If this opportunity interests you, please join us for a class to check out the format and see how you can help support our next generation as they grow in faith!

Questions? Call or text Denise at 306-222-5864.

Congratulations Rev. Timm!

Son of St. Paul's, Alex Timm, was ordained and installed on Sunday, August 25, 2019 at Our Saviour Lutheran Church, Dryden, Ontario.

Rev. Timm will also serve St. Mark Lutheran Church, Vermilion Bay. Regional Pastor, Rev. David Haberstock (middle, back row)

conducted the service. Rev. Roland Kubke (back row, right), St. John's Lutheran Church, Beach Corner, Alta., and Alex' father-in-law, preached the sermon. Below, Marion and Caleb join Alex for a picture.



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 Coordinators
for September - Ron & Ludy Jeschke

Classifieds

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.



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October is Give/Thanking Month

The Board of Evangelism is collecting for the Food Bank during the month of October.

We encourage the congregation to

GIVE

non-perishable food items and/or

GIVE

lightly used and clean winter clothing or blankets



THANKING

God for the *many blessings* he has given to us and

THANKING

God for the *many opportunities* we have to share his love.

Donations can be placed in a basket at the front entrance.

Happy Thanksgiving!



LuMinHoS
LUTHERAN MINISTRY IN
HOSPITALS OF SASKATOON

LuMinHoS wants to “illuminate” your evening on November 17, 2019, at the Western Development Museum with a dinner and a great program! Doors open at 5:00 p.m. and dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m. Tickets are \$40 per person and are available from Rhonda Billard or through the office; check with Sandy.

This is the annual major fundraiser for LuMinHoS, our Lutheran hospital chaplaincy ministry. Please consider reserving the date and plan to attend.

Details may be found in the October issue of *The Caregiver*, newsletter and on the LuMinHoS website.

Online ticket purchase is also available through <https://www.luminhos.org>.

A model of Christian fellowship

Several years ago Patience Asiamah found herself worshipping at St. Paul's. She had come from Ghana, West Africa for post graduate studies, leaving at home her husband and a young son, Kwame. It was long distance parenting for sure. After her graduation, her family joined her in Saskatoon. They have been a very welcome addition to our congregation. Kwame was asked to share some of his thoughts with his fellow worshippers.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church has been my church family since arriving in Saskatoon in July of 2006. I was only nine years old and I was new to Saskatoon having just arrived from Ghana. Apart from my family, I only knew Art and Gerry Timm in whose home we lived for the first few weeks. I am still amazed at their warmth, generosity and hospitality for which my family and I are very thankful. They introduced me to the congregation here at St. Paul's and from my first church service here to the present day it remains the same welcoming, loving community that embraced me 13 years ago. It continues to be a bedrock of Christian values, a second family for me and a place where I can turn in times of spiritual need. Whether it is seeking reassurance, encouragement or a sense of Christian belonging I can always count on the congregation and the people at St. Paul's.

As many people know, I was accepted into the College of Medicine here at the University of Saskatchewan and I started in August. However, on my journey to the college, I found continual support

from members of the congregation who showed interest, often inquired about my progress and provided encouragement throughout. For this I am very grateful and thankful to all of you. St. Paul's Lutheran is a positive environment, one that represents Christian fellowship and solidarity. I am very grateful to be part of this congregation and a member of this church.

St. Paul's provides not just a model for Christian fellowship but one that is even applicable to medicine. It is a congregation that collaborates, communicates and is cooperative with another. The congregation works to uphold our bonds, to continue to foster the spirit of fellowship and comradeship. These values are ones that medical doctors and health professionals should strive to demonstrate daily in their medical practices. As a result of this, I look forward to continuing my studies in medical school and my experience at St. Paul's Lutheran motivates me to exemplify these values found in the Church wherever I may find myself.



Kwame Asiamah

Do you belong in Sunday school?

The head of the family should teach (the catechism) in a simple way to his household" (Martin Luther).

As it becomes more difficult in this busy world to find time to teach our younger members at home, it seems even more imperative that we, as a congregation, set aside a special time to help our parents with this significant task by combining our efforts in a formal setting within the church on Sunday mornings.

Sunday school, of course, is not mandatory in the Christian church, however it is an important opportunity for children to learn about their Saviour, Jesus Christ. And it provides opportunity for parents, as well as other concerned members, to help children learn of God's love for them through Bible stories and to encourage them to memorize parts of the catechism that will serve them throughout life as well as make for an easier transition into confirmation classes.

Do you have a child or children of Sunday school age? We invite you to let us support you in teaching them about the wonderful Good News of God's gift of His Son, Jesus.

For those of you who feel God's calling to go back to Sunday school...in a teaching capacity this time...we'd like you to know your efforts are very much needed.

Currently, we hold one class for ages 4 – 11. We would prefer to offer two or more classes to better meet the needs of the different age groups. The commitment level per teacher could be significantly reduced if we had two or three volunteers per class.

Please prayerfully consider if this is the type of ministry God has in mind for you. If you have questions or concerns, call or text Denise Timm at 306-222-5864.

May God continue to bless our children through His church.

Seminary offers class for laity online

Concordia Lutheran Seminary, Edmonton, offers free classes twice a year at the seminary or online to any who wish to register. This program is entitled "Quest." This fall's course explores "Lutheran Distinctives."

What is unique about being Lutheran? How does Lutheranism contribute to the greater Church? Why is Lutheran identity important today?

The course is taught by Academic Dean, Dr. Stephen Chambers. All four evening sessions focus on Lutheran theological tradition that gives us a very special, irreplaceable role within the body of Christ.

- Tuesday, 8 October: "The Theology of the Cross: How God both hides himself and reveals himself"
- Tuesday, 15 October: "Two Kinds of Righteousness: Discerning God's work and our work in our lives."
- Tuesday, 22 October: "Two Kingdoms: How God works in both the church and the world."
- Tuesday, 29 October: "Together Under the Cross: How we live in the means of grace."

Quest runs from 7:00-9:00 p.m. MDT. Quest classes are free, at the seminary or online at <https://youtu.be/4MIQsYMtXI>. Groups can use the seminary's online platform. To secure a place, please register with Kathy Budgell at kbudgell@concordiasem.ab.ca or 1-780-474-1468 ext. 225.

Make your Thanksgiving a year-long Thanks-living. Be thankful for missionaries at home and abroad and keep them in your prayers.

~from *Simple Treasures* by Alma Kern

St. Paul's Gift Planning Committee is hosting a dinner following Divine Service on Sunday, November 3, 2019, to acknowledge gifts our congregation has been fortunate to receive in the past and to provide information about an initiative regarding a potential gift-giving opportunity.



Join us on Sunday, November 3 for dinner. All you need to do is sign up to let us know that you're planning to attend.

Digging into the Word

Sunday Morning Bible study 9:00 am
Men's Network video study "Stuff They Didn't Teach Me in Sunday School"
Began September 15

Tuesday Morning Ladies' Bible study 10:00 am
Study of the Scripture readings for the coming Sunday, most Tuesdays
Begins October 1
First Tuesday of each month LWML Bible study and meeting

Tuesday Afternoon Bible study 1:30 pm
Scripture readings for the coming Sunday

Begins October 1

Thursday Morning Men's Bible study 7:00 am
Various topics
Breakfast and study at Grainfields on 8th Street

Thursday Evening Bible study 7:00 pm *
Pastor's Bible study with topic TBA
Begins October 3 - **Note change of time**

EVERYONE IS WELCOME— JOIN US FOR WEEKLY STUDY!

Stewardship

In the early morning hours of Feb. 18, 1546, Martin Luther closed his eyes forever. And the hand that hammered the 95 Theses into the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg on Oct. 31, 1517, penned its final words:

“We are all beggars. This is true.”

And this is the truth that our Lord says makes you free. Ironic, isn't it? That, in order to be free, you must be a beggar; you must be utterly dependent and reliant upon God. This makes us uncomfortable – the way we're uncomfortable when someone gets us a Christmas or birthday present when we haven't gotten them one. We feel we owe them. And we don't much like being in someone's debt.

But what Luther would remind us is that we are all indeed beggars. But we're not just anyone's beggars. We're God's beggars. And this is His legacy to the Christian Church. Christ came for sinners. He came to seek and save the lost. He came to heal the sick and raise the dead. He came for sinners, and He dwells only with sinners.

And, if we are to be where He is, we must be willing to be counted among the lost, the sick, and the dead. We must be willing to be beggars. We must cry out for mercy, for grace, and for His undeserved love and kindness. We must be dependent solely on Him and what He gives.

And here's the beauty: He gives us everything. Everything – forgiveness of sins, salvation from death and the devil, and eternal life. This is not because of any worthiness or merit in us, but it is because of His divine goodness, mercy, and grace.

On account of Christ's death and resurrection, the Father forgives you, saves you, and is pleased with you. And you receive. You receive His love, His righteousness, His holiness, His acceptance, and His inheritance. We are all beggars. This is true.

This is the heart and soul of Christianity and the life-blood of the Christian Church. God justifies us, and He declares us innocent and righteous by His grace received through faith for the sake of Christ. This is not because of our works; this is because of His work on the cross. We, who once were enemies of God, are reconciled to Him and made to be His children.

This is what Luther would point us to when He took up his pen for the last time and scribbled “We are all beggars. This is true.” We are beggars. But we are beggars

of the God who does not ignore us, who doesn't pass by us on the other side. We are beggars of the One who descended from heaven to make His dwelling with sinners.

We are beggars of Him who deigns to dwell with us, among us, and – yes – even in us by grace for Christ's sake. For in the bread and cup that we bless, we share together with Christ and each other the riches of God's grace.

So inexhaustible are the riches of this grace – the Gospel in sermon and absolution, in Baptism and Holy Communion – that our cups overflow. We, who are God's beggars, are not only inexhaustibly satisfied but have something to give back in thanksgiving and praise.

The Board of Stewardship is leading the budget planning process for next year's budget. Boards now have the information and the forms they need to make their programs plans and estimates of expenditures required to accomplish their goals and programs. Part of the challenge in setting next year's budget is estimating what our total revenue and expenditures will be for the 2019 year. The Board of Stewardship has developed some tools to help us do just that by looking at actual results in the last three or four months of each year for the past several years. We expect to use that tool again this year.

What we do know is that to the end of August this year we had spent almost \$9,000 more than we had taken in. There were two or three larger expenditures that contributed to the deficit. The most significant factor, however, was that, due to an administrative error by our service provider for our pre-authorized remittance (PAR) system, those remittances for August were not taken out of donor's accounts and passed over to us. This has been sorted out for September donations but the monthly PAR amount of \$5400 for August was missed and is, therefore, not in the financial reports. We expect to make up 75 to 80% of those contributions as most of our donors will make up their August donation by way of cheque or cash. Assuming we do receive in the range of \$4,000 or so of those donations, our offerings to August 31, will be pretty much the same as our 2018 offerings for the same period – about \$162,000 – and will bring our 2019 deficit down to about \$5,000 which is very manageable to make up in the last four months of

continued next page

Stewardship, continued

the year. Our expenditures in 2019 are up about \$11,000 over 2018 due to higher salaries, mission commitments and repairs and maintenance expenditures.

We ask for God's guidance and blessings on our planning for next year.

*Blessings and Peace
Board of Stewardship*

79 Years Ago - Sept. 11, 1940

George Stibitz pioneers the first remote multiple access to a computer when he connected a computer by telephone line to a teletype unit a few hundred miles away.

PRAY FOR A FUTURE PASTOR

CONCORDIA
LUTHERAN
SEMINARY

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Peter Knelson
Fourth Year Student

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

Pastor's Corner

"Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good; for His steadfast love endures forever!" (Psalm 118:29)

"Give thanks to the LORD,
call upon His name,

make known His deeds among the peoples,
proclaim that His name is exalted." (Isaiah 12:4)

The holiday of Thanksgiving is coming up this month and it's a wonderful time to gather with loved ones, enjoy some turkey, and give thanks for all of the blessings we have in our lives. It is helpful to have a day set aside for this purpose. However, we find the encouragement to give thanks to God more than one day a year throughout the Scriptures. Giving thanks is what faith does. Giving thanks is to remember the Giver of the gifts we enjoy.

It is much easier to give thanks when our lives are in good order and we have everything we want. It is far more difficult to give thanks when our lives are filled with anxiety, and distress, and when we find ourselves without. Our focus is on what we are suffering, or on what we don't have—rather than on what we do have. And what we do have is our Baptism into Christ, His forgiveness for all of our sins, His body and blood that strengthens and preserves us in the true faith, and His promise of eternal life. This is something we can give thanks for no matter our circumstances.

The apostle Paul found himself in a terrible circumstance. He was in prison for proclaiming the Gospel. But even so, he wrote to the Philippians, "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God" (Philippians 4:6).

He goes on to say, "for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound, in any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need" (Philippians 4:11-12). What is his secret? In the next verse he says, "I can do all things through Him who strengthens me" (Philippians 4:13). Paul can give thanks no matter what he is facing because of the gifts he received in Christ—and so can we! We are recipients of God's rich grace in Jesus. So give thanks to the Lord for He is good, His steadfast love endures forever.

For the harvests of the Spirit, Thanks be to God.
For the good we all inherit, Thanks be to God.
For the wonders that astound us,
For the truths that still confound us,
Most of all, that love has found us,
Thanks be to God.

(LSB #894, v.3)

*God's blessings,
Pastor Keith*